

**CAVENISH SOCIETY.**—The First of the Books for 1857, GMELIN'S HANDBOOK OF CHEMISTRY, Vol. XI., is now ready for distribution to those Members who have paid the subscription for the present year. Some copies of the first six volumes of this Work are still on hand, and are supplied, through Members of the Society, for two guineas. A New Edition of PROF. ROSE'S HANDBOOK OF ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, containing much new matter furnished by the Author, and translated and edited by T. H. Henry, F.R.S., is in course of preparation. Agent for the distribution of the Books, Mr. Harrison, 39, Pall Mall, of whom Prospectuses and further information may be obtained.

THEOPHILUS REDWOOD, Secretary.  
19, Montague-street, Russell-square

**KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.**—It is with the greatest thankfulness that the Committee acknowledge having received, since February last, the sum of £1,077, 8s. 10d., out of the 40,000, which they calculated would be required to finish the new Hospital, and support the current expenses for the two years ending December, 1858. Less than 19,000, have now to be raised. The incomplete state of the communications between the old and new buildings is so dangerous to the health of the nurses, and the wards still standing in the old portion of the Hospital so unfit for the proper accommodation of the sick poor, that the Committee earnestly beg for the remainder of the sum which is requisite to enable them to proceed with the new works in the coming spring. They fully purpose that the present shall be the final effort on behalf of the new building, and that the whole work shall now be complete.

Subscriptions for the King's College Hospital Building Fund may be paid to Messrs. Twining & Co., 21, Drummonds; Messrs. Williams & Co., 21, Abchurch-lane; Messrs. J. W. Cunningham, Esq., King's College Hospital; or J. W. Cunningham, Esq., King's College, London.

**PRIZE CATTLE SHOW OF THE SMITHFIELD CLUB.**—THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF PRIZE CATTLE, SEEDS, ROOTS, IMPLEMENTS, &c., COMMENCES ON TUESDAY MORNING, and closes on Friday Evening, 28th, 29th, 30th, and 1st December. Bazaar, King-street and Baker-street. Open from Daylight till Nine in the Evening. Admission 1s.

**TO PROFESSORS.**—Superior Teachers of, and Lecturers on, the Hindustani, Persian, Arabic, and Turkish Languages, Physics, Logic and Moral Philosophy, Music, Dancing, Fencing and Gymnastic Exercises, Elocution, Writing and Book-keeping, ARE REQUIRED BY A First-class Institution. Applicants should state qualifications and terms.—Address (post paid) to J. HAYNES, Esq. Palace Chambers, 88, St. James's-street, London.

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THE FIRST SESSION OF 1858 WILL COMMENCE ON WEDNESDAY, January 27.

T. M. COOMBS, Esq. Treasurer; ALGERNON WELLS, Esq. Honorary Secretary; Rev. THOS. REES, Resident Secretary.

**EDUCATION IN PARIS.**—Madame TEXIER'S INSTITUTION FOR YOUNG LADIES, No. 20, Rue des Batailles, Quartier Champs-Élysées, is adapted to pupils of all ages, but offers peculiar advantages to adults, who besides desiring to perfect themselves in the French Language wish to pursue an advanced course of study. Mothers or other Guardians who may desire to accompany their charges, are received as Boarders, and admitted to the different Classes. The house is delightful, situated on high ground, with a large garden, and commands a most extensive view.—Address E. J. SUCH, Esq. Surgeon, Essex-street, River-terrace, Islington.

MR. KIDD'S CONCLUDING LECTURES FOR 1857.

MR. WILLIAM KIDD will be at LISKEARD, Nov. 30; TRURO, Dec. 1; and PENZANCE, Dec. 4.—On Dec. 11, 16, and 19, he will LECTURE at the Philosophical Institution, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE; at BARNSELEY, Dec. 21; and at DONCASTER, Dec. 22.

MR. KIDD'S ANNUAL BENEFIT will take place Dec. 25, at LOWER NORWOOD, Surrey. Subject, on this occasion, "Kindred Hearts, Happy Homes, and Cheerful Faces." To be followed by "The Blossom that Hangs on the Bough," with entirely New Illustrations.

**DALTON CHEMICAL SCHOLARSHIP AND PRIZES.**—OWENS COLLEGE, MANCHESTER. J. G. GREENWOOD, B.A., Principal.

HENRY E. ROSCOE, B.A., Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry. The following SCHOLARSHIP AND PRIZES will be offered to Students in Chemistry of the present session, viz:—

A Scholarship of £60, tenable for two years, for the best original research on Chemistry, to be carried out during the present session in the College Laboratory. The Scholarship will be competed for in October.

**PRIZES.—LABORATORY CLASSES.**

Senior Class: Two Prizes of 25s. and 12s. for the best and second-best Series of Organic Preparations, with Analyses.

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The Laboratory of the College is open daily for Instruction in Analytical and Practical Chemistry, under the superintendence of the Professor.

Further particulars relating to the Courses and Terms of Instruction, and the conditions upon which the Scholarship and Prizes may be competed for, will be found in a Prospectus, which may be had from Mr. Nicholson, at the College, Quay-street.

JOHN P. ASTON, Solicitor and Secretary to the Trustees.

St. James's Chambers, 49th November, 1857.

**SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.**—The LECTURES ON SCIENCE AND ART are fully reported in the BUILDING NEWS every Friday.

**CRYSTAL PALACE.**—MOZART CONCERT.—SATURDAY NEXT, December 5, being the Anniversary of the Death of Mozart (1791), the Music for the usual Saturday Concert will be selected exclusively from the Works of that Great Master. The Programme will include the Symphony in G minor; Fantasia in C minor, Piano-forte Solo; Non temer, Cantata for Soprano, Orchestra, and Piano Obligato; selection from "Don Giovanni," &c. Vocalists, Mr. Stabach and Mr. Santley; Pianoforte, Herr Pauer; Conductor, Mr. Manns. Open at Twelve; Concert at Half-past Two.—Admission, Half-crown; Children under Twelve, One Shilling.

**THE FINE-ART SUBSCRIPTION GALLERY** for the LOAN of WORKS OF ART.—J. & S. B. FULLER respectfully invite the Lovers of Art to view their Subscription Gallery for the Loan of Works of Art, embracing the best talent of the two Water-Colour Societies.—N.B. The terms have been so arranged as to meet all classes, and will be sent post free to all parts of the United Kingdom. A fine collection of drawings, by all the best masters, always on sale.—34 and 35, Rathbone-place, W.

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**MR. B. H. SMART** acquaints his Friends that he still continues to INSTRUCT CLERICAL and other PUPILS IN ELOCUTION, to meet Classes in Families and Schools for English generally, and to engage for Public Readings and Lectures.—37, Wyndham-street, Bryanston-square, W.

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many risks on account of the jealousy of the tribes whom his appearance startled, and the malignity of the convicts escaped from the Chinese penal settlements. Still, he bore amulets, — a special Imperial passport to bend every official neck within the frontiers of Russia, and guns and pistols to impress the nomades of simpler regions.

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The old residence of the Demidoffs is a magnificent castle, all the rooms of which have

groined ceilings in brickwork, admirably executed; but the family has ceased to reside here, although the princely table is spread for every stranger with rich viands and wines, — a hospitality not exuberant if we think of the opulence that flows into the Demidoff's coffers. The entire province is a repository of natural wealth; here jasper, porphyry, and aventurine are wrought into columns, vases, and pedestals; here tables of jasper are elaborated and inlaid with figures of birds and flowers and clusters of grapes, at the cost sometimes of six years of incessant labour, with vases of pink and yellow oolite; here lapidaries cut the emeralds, topaz, amethyst, and aqua-marina, besides beryl, chrysoberyl, and rose tourmaline. Such riches provoke their possessor to luxury, so that we are not surprised to find Mr. Salemskoi cultivating an orchard under a glass roof, and compelling oranges, cherries, plums, and peaches to ripen in the valleys of Siberia. Mr. Atkinson supplies a sketch of a mansion belonging to one of these lordly miners.

"It is an enormous edifice, forming three sides of a quadrangle, with its outbuildings, and enclosed on the fourth with a wall and iron railing; in the centre are massive brick gate piers and iron gates. This dwelling of a miner in the Oural would make some of our best baronial mansions look insignificant if placed in contrast with it. The building is of brick, now become black from the smoke of the iron-works, which stand at a short distance to the west. Nor has it been finished externally; only a very small part has been plastered with cement, just sufficient to show the design and details, which are exceedingly bold. The interior has been completed; in the centre, on the ground-floor, there is a large entrance-hall, with a beautiful groined ceiling in brickwork; beyond this is a large room, also groined and made fire-proof, the ceiling well finished with ribs and tracery; the centre window opens to the floor, leading to a large circular portico, from which two circular flights of stone steps descend into the garden. The whole of this floor is used by the Director for his residence. At each end of the building are two magnificent stone staircases leading to the upper story, which contains the principal rooms: they are most spacious and lofty."

The people here are mighty hunters, but mightiest among them was Anna Petrovnaia, the scourge of bears — young, slim, firm-footed, pretty, powerful, and active. In girlhood she had sallied out to emulate her brothers, and bring home a bearskin. It was the practice of this Amazon to track the terrible game herself, and once, hearing that a huge black bear had been seen in a neighbouring forest, she rose before dawn, rode thereto, dismounted, and found his trail.

"There was a heavy dew on the grass in the open glades, and she observed that Bruin was taking his morning ramble, his track being quite fresh. Looking to the priming of her rifle, and adding powder from her flask, she went on with a firm step. The bear had made many turnings on his march, but she followed him with all the sagacity of a blood-hound, and never once lost his trail. Hour after hour passed, however, and she had not caught a glimpse of him. As it threatened to be a long chase Anna had recourse to her little bag, sat down by a small stream and made her breakfast on a piece of rye-bread, washed down with a draught from the pure liquid flowing at her feet. Having ended her frugal meal, she shouldered her rifle and again pushed on. She had another long and fruitless walk. Satisfied, however, that she was on his track, she pursued it till she arrived at a bed of high plants, that included the giant fennel, of the flowers of which the bears are very fond. While proceeding along the edge of this bed, a fresh indication well known to hunters, assured her that the long-sought-for game was at hand. As she was creeping cautiously forward out rushed the bear, with a loud growl, about twenty yards in front.

Quickly she threw forward the prongs of her rifle, dropped on one knee, and got a good sight—the animal staring at her, almost motionless. She now touched the trigger, there followed a flash, a savage growl succeeded, then a struggle for a minute or two, and her wish was accomplished—the bear lay dead! After taking off his skin, she started in search of her horse, which she found at no great distance; for she had been brought back nearly to the spot where she commenced the chase. She was shortly on her way home and astonished her family, on her entrance to the cottage, by throwing the skin on the floor. Since this time Anna Petrovna has engaged with, and killed, sixteen bears."

Passing with Mr. Atkinson out of the iron and Jasper into the golden region, where the Emperor Alexander himself dug up a nugget weighing twenty-four pounds, we meet with a good many Englishmen by the way, engaged at the mines. One of these met with a strange adventure in the forests of the Southern Oural, when four wild horses, attached to a carriage without a driver, galloped off with him as he lay within the vehicle undressed. After flying for an hour, like Mazeppa in a curricule, he contrived to leap out, and implored a half-scared peasant woman to lend him her petticoat. But, beyond the Holy Lake of the Bashkirs, and within sight of the great mountain, Iremel, Mr. Atkinson himself began to witness more savage sights, especially among the convict colonies on the Altai, and amidst landscapes like the ruins of a thunder-smitten globe. Down the valley of Kaier Koomin—across the dreary Steppes—under the snow-piled peaks of the Cholsoun—to the Kourt-Chume Mountains, and he was at the gates of China.

"These mountains seem destined by Nature to be the boundary between the two empires. They were covered with snow, and at this time formed a complete barrier to our further progress in that direction."

His route had trended southwards to this point, and he saw the sun, like a crimson star, melt its last light over the Russian Empire. Every step in this direction was an advance into regions little, if at all, known to geographers.

"To the north of Naryn there are some considerable granite rocks rising out of the plain, without one blade of grass growing upon them. These have once been held in great veneration. Figures have been cut upon them by a race of men of whom we have no record, or even a trace by which we can ascertain either who they were or at what period they lived."

From the orange, red, and yellow rocks of the Irtisch at Naryn, he descended the river in canoes, catching glimpses of marvellous scenery, watching an eclipse of the sun from the Kirghis deserts, and experiencing the strange excitement of a journey through a country of robbers. However, his account of the Steppes and their inhabitants suggests not a few fascinations attributable to that timeless mode of life. All this part of the narrative is dramatic as well as descriptive,—the records of wild adventure being generally too long for quotation. But here is a barbarous full-length.

"There was one lady sixty years old, who was dressed like a young girl of twenty. Her head was bedecked on one side with white cut-glass beads, on the other with green glass drops, most probably originally intended for chandeliers. On her neck she wore a chain, with a large square brooch suspended from it, also of green glass. She had bracelets on her arms studded with yellow glass; and round her waist a girdle with the same material. With her pink silk dress, grey gloves, yellow shoes, and decorations, she was one of the most curiously-costumed ladies I ever met."

As a sportsman Mr. Atkinson enjoyed a plenitude of excitement, shooting bears in the immeasurable cedar-forests, stalking the Sibe-

rian deer, and eating venison kabobs in Kalmuck tents. His ascent of the Bielouka in search of the Katounaia fountains is a chapter of the most vivid romance of travel, yet it is less attractive than his relation of wanderings across the Desert of Gobi, and up the Tangnou chain. From one of the pinnacles he obtained a view that rewarded him for many a long labour and memorable peril.

"Immediately beneath lay the Oubsa-Noor; far to the south-west was seen Oulan-Koum Desert and the Aral-Noor; to the south lay Tchagan Tala, and the ridges descending down to the Gobi; and to the south-west we looked upon the crests of the Khangai Mountains—several peaks covered with snow. This was a peep far into Central Asia, and over a region never beheld by any European. A dim and misty outline of Bogda Oöla was seen rising above the Gobi, and the vast desert stretched away till lost in haze."

It was when among the singular Kalkas people that he first saw a Chinese town,—but his guides dissuaded him from approaching it. Turning northwards, he traversed the extraordinary Mongolian plains, across low, purple ridges, swarming with serpents, and several rivers, of whose names and courses the people knew absolutely nothing. Wild boars were hunted in this region. At the great caravan road crossing the Gobi, and within sight of Ilka-Aral-Nor, Mr. Atkinson reviewed his position and traced his plans:—

"After examining my map, I still determined to continue our journey a day or two more in a southerly direction, then to turn to the westward and strike upon the river Ourounjour; by doing this I should enter the Gobi to the north of the great chain, 'Thian-chan' on our maps—a name utterly unknown to the natives, who call this chain—'Syan-shan,' which I shall adopt whenever speaking of these mountains. They are the highest in Central Asia, and amongst them rises that stupendous mass, 'Bogda Oöla,' the volcanoes Pe-shan and Ho-theou, to see which I was pushing my way into this dreary region."

This route brought him into Chinese Tartary, by way of the deserts, imaginatively described by Mr. De Quincey in his story of the Tartar exodus. Here was the realm of Sultans,—each holding court in his own encampment, and dispensing a pastoral hospitality to the stranger. Their manners have as yet been unmodified by inconvenient Western theories as to the rights of women. Thus, at a banquet:—

"The Kirghis who sat nearest the trays selected the things he liked best, and after eating a part, handed it to the man sitting behind; when again diminished, this was passed to a third, then to the boys; and having run the gauntlet of all these hands and mouths, the bone reaches the women and girls, divested of nearly every particle of food. Finally, when these poor creatures have gnawed till nothing is left on the bone, it is tossed to the dogs."

Among these warrior chieftains, Mr. Atkinson witnessed a grand display of Tartar falconry. The bird had shackles and a hood, and a cavalcade, glittering with spears and battle-axes, followed him to the open plains:—

"We had not gone far when several large deer rushed past a jutting point of the reeds, and bounded over the plain, about 300 yards from us. In an instant the bearcoote was unhooded, and his shackles removed, when he sprang from his perch, and soared up into the air. I watched him ascend as he wheeled round, and was under the impression that he had not seen the animals; but in this I was mistaken. He had now risen to a considerable height, and seemed to poise himself for about a minute. After this, he gave two or three flaps with his wings, and swooped off in a straight line towards his prey. I could not perceive that his wings moved, but he went at a fearful speed. There was a shout, and away went his keepers at full gallop, followed by many others. I gave my horse his head, and a touch of the whip; in a

few minutes he carried me to the front, and I was riding neck-and-neck with one of the keepers. When we were about 200 yards off, the bearcoote struck his prey. The deer gave a bound forward, and fell. The bearcoote had struck one talon into his neck, the other into his back, and with his beak was tearing out the animal's liver. The Kirghis sprang from his horse, slipped the hood over the eagle's head, and the shackles upon his legs, and removed him from his prey without difficulty. The keeper mounted his horse, his assistant placed the bearcoote on his perch, and he was ready for another flight. No dogs are taken out when hunting with the eagle; they would be destroyed to a certainty; indeed, the Kirghis assert that he will attack and kill the wolf. Foxes are hunted in this way, and many are killed—the wild goat and the lesser kinds of deer are also taken in considerable number. We had not gone far before a herd of small antelopes were seen feeding on the plain. Again the bird soared up in circles as before—this time I thought to a greater elevation; and again he made the fatal swoop at his intended victim, and the animal was dead before we reached him. The bearcoote is unerring in his flight—unless the animal can escape into holes in the rocks, as the fox does sometimes, death is his certain doom."

Mr. Atkinson was now in the Arcadia of tents; and, when he sat at dawn gazing at the peaks of the Syan-shan, as their tips beamed out one by one in the ruby, auroral light, the landscape, far and wide, became warm and animate,—and any idealist might have fancied himself revisiting the glimpses of the moon in the age of gold. All was picturesque, primitive, and yet perfectly free from the aspect of poverty so common among barbarous nations. On the other hand, the traveller was himself an object of curiosity:—

"I wore a shooting jacket of rifle green, a checked waistcoat and trousers—but very little of the latter were seen as my legs were inserted into a pair of long shooting-boots—a pink calico shirt, with the collar turned down over a small neck-tie, and a large-brimmed felt hat that would accommodate itself to any shape. For a period of four years no barber had touched my silvery locks, and they were hanging down in heavy curls. This was a great wonder, as all male heads with them are closely shaven."

The Sultans wore robes of flowered silk and satin, beautiful green boots and yellow overshoes, and the Sultaness rejoiced in delicate white turbans, scarfs of velvet, pretty vests of silk, and trousers gracefully furled about their limbs. It was unwillingly that a traveller could part from these happy people, even to attempt a visit to the singular Chinese town of Tchín-si, and to touch with his foot the untrodden slopes of Syan-shan. Men with battle-axes and helmet-shaped caps constituted a martial retinue; and their guardianship was by no means superfluous in that borderland of China. Unfortunately, he was obliged to be content with a distant glance:—

"We were now within a three hours' ride of Tchín-si, and nearer the guide would not go: he had never been in the town, and had no wish to visit it. I could see the lake he had mentioned, which is a short distance from the town to the eastward. The buildings were also distinctly visible on the declivity of a hill; but there are no striking edifices or large architectural masses in a Chinese town. The houses are small, and of no great elevation. To the north-west of Tchín-si, the Syan-shan rises into high peaks, but they do not reach the snow-line. After taking my last look at the town we turned to the north-east, and rode along the plain parallel to the mountain-chain, the rugged and riven tops of which were in full view. I believe these stupendous masses were then seen and sketched for the first time, by any European."

Many portraits of desert princes are sketched by Mr. Atkinson,—among others, that of Sultan Souk:—

"A greater robber could not be found in the



Steppe, and though at this time, being eighty years of age, he could not join in the *barantas*, many were planned by him. On another occasion, when I was staying at his *aoul*, some Kirghis came from the middle horde to beg of him to give up their wives and children, who had been carried off by his banditti—they formed part of his share of the plunder—but the old scoundrel would not restore one. He received a pension from the Russian Emperor, sold his country, and deceived his Imperial Majesty. In one of his *barantas*, a battle-axe had cut his nose, and rendered it crooked; and when I was sketching him, he desired me not to copy his present nose, but put in a proper one, or the Emperor would discover his plundering habits. When sitting for his portrait, he had on a scarlet coat, a gold medal, and a sabre, sent him by Alexander the First, of which he was wonderfully proud."

Mr. Atkinson's pencil was seldom idle among these decorated patriarchs, and the landscapes of their beautiful country; but we must bring our quotations to an end with the following little bit of natural history:—

"It is a fact well known, that the bear will not attack a man when sleeping by a fire, but will first go into the water, saturate his fur, then return, put out the fire, and devour his victim at his leisure."

These extracts will have served to illustrate the originality and variety of Mr. Atkinson's observations and adventures during his protracted wanderings through the strange countries lying between Tchinsu on the south, the Tchapoigor gold-district to the north, Lake Baikal eastwards, and the Oural on the west. Within this enormous space, filled by a maze of rivers, deserts, valleys, and mountains, the towers of the world, and inhabited by scattered fragments of nations, he gathered the materials of an animated and intelligent narrative, deepening the perspective of geography in the Asiatic interior, and otherwise appreciably enriching the literature of English travel.

#### *A Woman's Preaching for Woman's Practice.* By Augusta Johnstone. (Groombridge & Sons.)

#### *Industrial and Social Position of Women in the Middle and Lower Ranks.* (Chapman & Hall.)

THE "Condition of Women" question is one that is getting itself asked with increased emphasis every day; it has become like one of those "Prize Enigmas" put forth in family journals, or like that sealed-up Bank note destined to become the property of whoever can declare its value and number. We recollect, years ago, in an old circulating library to have come on a superannuated novel, called 'Woman's a Riddle—find it out.' The fair sphynx question has not yet received its reply, judging from the multitude of guesses which every day brings forth, none of them fulfilling the requirements of a grand solution.

The question of "Woman" has been in morals what *La Recherche de l'Absolu* was in chemistry—a fascinating possibility, on which reality was ever being shipwrecked, but making men in love with ruin. "Happy the state that has no annals" has passed into an aphorism; but thrice happy is that womanly condition which suggests no "questions."

Poor dear Woman! endowed with so many fairy gifts, yet unable to use them to profit. A fair field and plenty of favour have they had from the beginning of the world, but how little they have made out of it, witness their uneasy condition at the present moment, and the perplexed state of their relations! Interesting patients, for whom every pedant prescribes his moral quack medicine! One wishes for them, before all things, a little wholesome letting alone, with plenty of fresh air and the free use of their

limbs: we should see what would come of it. Women, we suppose, are human beings; and if they were allowed to take their chance as such, instead of having from babyhood their minds and morals specifically labelled "feminine," there would be a better hope they might turn out rational creatures. "Women's rights" and "Women's wrongs" would then find their level, and be absorbed in the wholesome life of the community.

The old-fashioned maxims, that "A woman was to make herself into a beautiful reflex of her husband," and spend her life "in obeying him" and "making him happy," have become doubtful for two reasons:—one being, that the matrimonial superstition about a husband being his wife's incarnation of human wisdom, is going the way of all superstitions; the other is, that husbands have ceased to be plentiful. Formerly, every woman born into the nursery might calculate with certainty on being married. Then, to be "an old maid," was the consequent penalty for being either intensely ugly or extremely disagreeable. All that is now changed; in the present day, if a woman with moderate beauty or less fortune waits till somebody comes to marry her, the chances are that she will have her waiting for her pains.

The peculiarity of modern literature is, that women are addressed more as independent, and less as relative beings,—the possibility that they may remain unmarried is assumed, and dealt with. This alone marks an advance in common sense, in the books which profess to inform women of "something to their advantage."

In the two works at the head of our article the key note is—Let women be brought up to work for their living. This is advice which women would do well to lay to heart,—in this country at least. Money is power; and if women once set to work to earn it, all minor points of rights and wrongs would settle themselves.

The little brochure of 'A Woman's Preaching' is excellent, and much to the purpose. It is written with good taste and good sense; and if it contain nothing very new or original, the suggestions have at least the merit of being practicable. In this world the commonest truths need to be repeated many times before the hearers begin to find out that, as a little girl said of her lessons, "they mean something!"

The 'Industrial and Social Position of Women' is a portly, ponderous essay, solidly freighted with statistics. The drift of its argument is, that the girls of the middle classes should be brought up to earn their living regularly, and as a matter of course, as the boys are,—to join men in their daily labour, on the footing of companionship. The work is very well intentioned, but is over full of words; the meaning is well nigh smothered in them, and the drift of the intention is much obscured thereby. The book is heavy to read, which is a pity; for everything that tends to give women the fixed idea, that it is better for them to work than to be idle,—to earn money before they spend it,—and to consider their work not an exceptional or amateur state of things, but as a rule and not the exception,—is too valuable to be lost for want of those well-sharpened words, which fix a truth, as with nails, in the memory of those who hear them. The author insists, in his verbose, heavy way, on one essential point—the need of going through a regular apprenticeship and proper training for every employment. The following is the passage; it is a good specimen both of style and matter:—

"If we were to point out any one element more

likely than another to retard the progress of woman's admission to industry, it is an insufficient sense on her part of the necessity not only of a suitable training, but also, even more emphatically, of training in habits of business. At every turn a contrast is at present drawn between the value of man's services and woman's services in branches of business where in most respects the sexes seem on a footing of equality; and in nine cases out of ten, where there is inferiority on the part of woman, whether in the higher or lower grades of employment, it is attributable to the source now pointed out."

All true; but certainly it cannot be said of the writer that

Truths divine come mended from his tongue.

When women open their eyes and hearts they will see that all their "wrongs" and "disabilities" have their source in themselves; that they can be strong and free only on the same terms on which men and nations can obtain their freedom, viz., that of showing themselves capable of obtaining and holding it. They cannot be at once free and favoured. Never was there a state of society in which women had a fairer opportunity of being or doing anything that seems good or right in their own eyes. No human being can give freedom to another; at the utmost he can only abstain from throwing obstacles in the way.

The first thing needful to any amelioration that women may desire in their condition is, that they should consider themselves as rational beings, and act accordingly; and we will undertake to promise that they will be treated accordingly. What tells most against the position of women is, that they are neither true to each other nor to themselves; they do not stand by each other; each is content to make terms for herself, and to give up her neighbour. Women won't unite with each other. All their boasted generosity and self-sacrifice and self-devotion is for the sake of their lovers or husbands or children, some personality of their own to be gratified; they have a scant sense of justice, and no idea of the relative claims and proportions of duties. If men have all these years been in the position of lords and masters—the ruling body—it undoubtedly is that on the whole they have deserved to be so: no other "right prescriptive" will endure the wear and tear of actual life. Those who do the actual work of the world rule the world. Wherever women have shown breadth and strength of character, sound judgment, self-control, and the qualities that make man a master, they have had power and influence and reverence accordingly. Water does not more surely find its own level than quality of character its befitting results. None can hinder cause and effect, and in the great just balance of Nature whatever men or races or nations deserve so much will they obtain. We are not speaking of sentimental deservings, but of the power a man may have to make his works accepted and respected. This power is not transferable.

#### *Outram and Havelock's Persian Campaign.*

By Capt. G. H. Hunt, 78th Highlanders. To which is prefixed a Summary of Persian History, &c. By George Townsend. (Routledge & Co.)

BLOODIER fields and sterner encounters have already made us forget the victories of Khusháb and Mohammerah, which ushered in the opening year. The absorbing interest of the struggle at Delhi and Lucknow seems to have placed a vast interval between us and our Persian triumphs, and perhaps the very skill and courage which won those victories so easily have most unfairly robbed them of half their value in our

eyes. Indeed, whether we consider the disparity of our forces and the numbers of the enemy, or the utter rout and destruction of their armies and the trifling loss of our own troops, or the immense amount of *matériel* captured by us, or the precision and success of our arrangements, and the perfect order, health, and efficiency of our army during the whole time of its stay in the Gulf,—we must in every point of view pronounce Sir James Outram's brief campaign, from the end of January to the beginning of May, to have been one of the most brilliant and successful of which the annals of any country can boast. Of feats of arms few more extraordinary can be recounted than the charge of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry with the Punah Irregulars at Khusháb, in which a square of Persian infantry were fairly ridden over and cut to pieces, in spite of discipline, a determined front, and unwavering resolution; or than the destruction of the forts at Mohammerah by the vessels under Capt. Young. But higher than even these must be ranked the moral character of a force among which, in spite of its numbers, "scarce an instance of misconduct on the part of any individual was brought to the General's notice." We may, therefore, very readily spare the single feature which is wanting to render the Expedition to the Persian Gulf attractive to the vulgar eye and condone the absence of what in Wellington's rude phrase is styled "a large butcher's bill."

But we find we have been irresistibly drawn to notice the latter part of the volume before us first. This leads us to remark that the introductory chapters about the ancient history of Persia and the causes of the war seem to us simply a mistake. The reader wants to know what Outram and Havelock did, and it is very hard that he must curb his impatience till he has waded through a dreary slough of Pishdadyan and Kaianian Kings, with heavy patches from Herodotus and other school-books, about which his "edge" has been long since taken off with many a groaning. If, indeed, Mr. Townsend, who indites the preliminary chapters, could have put his old pictures in new lights, and varnished the faded colours with knowledge of his own, we might have suffered ourselves to be bored for a moderate space of time; but this he is quite unable to do, and, therefore, we are sorry that he did not allow Capt. Hunt, of the renowned 78th Highlanders, to tell his own soldier's story of the campaign. This officer, who landed in Persia with his regiment after Bushire was won, narrates events from that point of time, and consequently begins with the assumption of supreme command by General Outram on the 10th of January, and ends with his farewell order of the 9th of May last. His narrative is brief and simple, and would not have exceeded the dimensions of a pamphlet, but for the two hundred pages of preliminary matter with which Mr. Townsend has encumbered it. We say again, that we would gladly barter this weary Introduction for a little more accuracy in printing, and even the slightest acquaintance with the Persian language. We should not then be startled at such absurdities as "Brigadier-General Tarol, C.B., the highly reputed chief of the Scinde horse," "the Hindoo Kaash," "Kahandil Khan" "remonstrated with Sadr Azim, the Prime Minister of Persia,"—as an equivalent of which last sentence a Persian might write "Lord Chancellor, an English Judge, told me." Some words, in fact, are so disfigured that even their mother-tongue would not recognize them. Who could guess that *Toomah-cool-Sami* stands for the sixth Arabian month, *Junada-s-sáni*; or that *sakessetchebashee* is for *Kisakchi-Báshi*? We are hardly indemnified for our trouble in noting these

blunders even by learning that *hocus pocus* comes from the ancient Persic "Hokopaz, a juggler," which it does—by a process worthy of the name.

To return to Capt. Hunt and the campaign. We think it due to General Outram, than whom no man has ever had more unscrupulous detractors, more bitter enemies, or more devoted friends, to say that throughout this narrative he is spoken of as he deserves,—that is, as a skilful and chivalrous leader who, while achieving all that a good general can effect, utterly ignores his own merits. He had landed but a few days when he led the army on the 3rd of February to the capture of Buraz-jun and victory of Khusháb, at which place the enemy left 700 dead on the field and lost two guns, the standard of their Guards and nearly all their *matériel* and ammunition. On the 26th of March Mohammerah was captured and there most of the laurels fell to the blue jackets. The advance of the land forces is, however, thus described:—

"Our formation was as follows:—a line of contiguous quarter-distance columns; a field-battery on the right. Next came the 78th Highlanders; then the 26th Native Infantry (one wing), her Majesty's 64th regiment, the light battalion, and 23rd Bengal light Infantry, the whole covered by a cloud of skirmishers. The point of attack was the camp to the left rear of the town of Mohammerah, where the Shah-zadeh had evidently pitched his cavalry and guns, and had been with them in person. His infantry had occupied the other encampment, about five hundred yards to the right of this, and had also been quartered in considerable numbers in the batteries and date-groves adjacent. Up to the moment of our advance, these troops were drawn up, in order of battle, outside the boundary of the Shah-zadeh's camp, the right of their line far outflanking our left, which had actually no protection when it had once advanced into the open plain, beyond the 23rd Native Light Infantry being slightly thrown back. This great risk, however, caused no hesitation with Sir James. The compact red battalions moved steadily to their front, and the leading skirmishers had arrived within gun-range of the enemy's camp, the field-battery guns actually trotting up to assist them with their fire against the salutes of round shot and grape momentarily expected, when the Persian army seemed literally to have vanished, and, but for the tents still standing, would almost have induced a belief that an illusion of mirage rather than the presence of an armed host had been but so recently before us. At the last moment all courage had deserted the foe. The lesson of the morning had been too severe to induce even the shah's guards, with his uncle, a prince royal, present at their head, to risk a repetition of the same, although the homes of many and the honour of all their countrymen depended upon the fortune of the day. Their army fled, although the odds were greatly in their favour, and they could hardly expect to meet us under more advantageous circumstances. Every tent was left standing, even that of their prince chief. The ground was strewn with arms, accoutrements, ammunition, band-instruments, saddlery, carpets, grain, bedding, and even their dinners. Many of our round shot and unexploded shells also lay around, with bloody proofs of the mischief they had done, and of the tremendous range of the guns they were fired from. Very few of their wounded were found among all this *débris*; so carefully had they either been carried off by their comrades, or concealed by the people of the town close by."

The consequences of this victory were not less important than those of Khusháb, and amongst other excellent results, the Persians learned to appreciate the humanity and generosity of their conquerors. We read:—

"Many of their dead (some eighty or ninety) lay unburied in the batteries, even though the whole night previous to our entrance the enemy had been employed in burying their slain, as the

newly-made graves on the ground outside the date-groves abundantly testified. A loss of 300 killed was acknowledged by them; but, from the duration of the fire, it must have been greater. Of their wounded but few showed themselves to us, as they had ample time to cross the river (those, at least, able to do so) while we were in pursuit of the retreating army. It would have been better for these unfortunate fugitives had they fallen into our hands, as it was afterwards ascertained that the Arabs mercilessly butchered every one of the helpless wretches that they discovered. The few found by us were taken care of—though so perfectly misunderstood was this kindness at first, that, imagining they were only being reserved for greater torture, they for some time resisted all kind of treatment—even water—from the hands of their captors,—a terrible but unmistakable evidence of their own brutality in warfare. Our own casualties were but ten men killed, and one officer (Lieutenant Harris, I.N.) and thirty men wounded. The officer belonged to the Semiramis. This small amount of loss is the more extraordinary as the Persian gunnery was anything but despicable, the ships being hulled in many places by their shot, and rigging cut in all directions, as well as boats smashed; 300 musket-bullets were also lodged in the broadside of the *Feroze* alone, and many others must also have entered the hayricks by which her sides were protected—these doubtless saved many lives from small-arm fire. The Persian guns got the range of the mortar-raft (a very small object, and about 1,000 yards distant) very quickly, striking it once, and also sinking a boat attached to it. Endless tales of hair-breadth 'scapes also circulated both in camp and on shipboard."

Sir J. Outram followed up his success with the energy and daring of a true general. He despatched a small but admirably selected detachment in pursuit of the flying enemy. At Awaz, which Mr. Townsend writes *Alkáz* and *Akwas*, they came upon the Persians. Then was seen the astonishing spectacle of a disciplined army of many thousand men retreating with all haste before 300 soldiers. The miserable Persians died by scores of starvation,—all their stores having been captured, and their nearest depôt being 100 miles from the scene of their flight. So ended the campaign, for in the midst of victory the general's arm was arrested, and negotiation gave back all that the sword had won. Capt. Hunt's narrative finishes with brief sketches of Baghdad and other towns on the Great River; from which we extract the following description of a storm:—

"The approach of this fearful visitant would be most correctly described as awfully sublime: it advanced massively and regularly, as though one half of the earth had been bodily raised up and was hanging in mid-air to overwhelm the other—the outer edge as abrupt and clearly defined as that of some stupendous projecting cliff, and not unlike such in colour, being of a dusky brown hue; and near the ground, where the wind rolled it in eddies, huge chasms and caverns seemed formed, as though actually cut out of the solid rock. The cattle herded together and lay down, evidently terrified, as it neared them; and the birds, quitting the air, also sought refuge upon the ground. For a few seconds before the crash broke an unearthly stillness prevailed, then a few large drops of rain and a terrific gust of wind struck the steamer, and instantly afterwards the dust-storm was on her. Daylight became suddenly and most singularly eclipsed rather than darkened, for though vision was limited to very little distance on either hand, it still was not the black obscurity which night throws around, but rather a thick, palpable veil, perfectly impervious to view, yet still admitting a dusky, subdued light. This lasted for some three or four hours, during which dust, so fine as to penetrate within the watches on board, fell thickly, attended with a sense of almost suffocation; and a fierce rushing of the wind was audible at some distance, although, after the first blast, a calm prevailed near the steamer. Had all the cannon in the universe been discharged at the same instant



—the uproar, smoke, and dust from ever so mighty a battery would have made but a feeble comparison with the grand spectacle that was displayed before us. It was, in truth, terrifically grand, and imposed a feeling of awe upon us—helpless as all human means would have been, if involved in its resistless vortex, and ignorant as we were of what fearful consequences might be concealed within its impenetrable depths. All, however, passed over without accident, though considerable time elapsed before sufficient light returned to enable us to continue our course; and the day closed with a lovely, cool, star-lit evening."

The narrative concludes with the loss of the Erin, in which Havelock and the 78th were proceeding to Calcutta. The lives of so many warriors, who have since achieved such deeds, were thus jeopardized at a moment when their aid was so much needed by us in India. Providentially they were saved, and the gallant narrator of the Persian campaign lived to take his part in the glorious advance on Cawnpore, where, he perished of that dread epidemic which has so often thinned the ranks of our armies in the East. He died, but his name will survive among those who deserve well of their country.

*Men of the Time. Biographical Sketches of Eminent Living Characters. Also, Biographical Sketches of Celebrated Women of the Time.* (Kent & Co.)

THE new edition of this useful little work proves the truth of our first observation on it,—namely, that it was a good idea, capable of very great improvements. As a book of reference it has been much increased in value. Fresh names have been included. A fairer proportion has been established between the space devoted to certain men,—though there is still much to reform in this respect. We are ready to allow the wide difference between fame and notoriety, and to see a positive merit in a plan which aspires to judge men by the real rather than the apparent. The ministers of fate are not those who cry loudest in the marketplace. We are glad to find space allotted to the illustration of real powers, when those powers are masked to the public by circumstances or character. But there should be a certain modesty observed even in doing justice to obscure genius. Above all, the celebration should be so made as to avoid any suggestion that obscure genius is blowing its own trumpet. For example, we read of a certain writer's youth—

"Thus he passed the sweetest and most impressive period of his life in one of the loveliest of our English valleys; a defile opening out of the rich vast 'Vale of Gloucester,' between undulating hills of wood, pasture, and orchard, where the great ocean of summer that fills the plain runs and ripples, curls and breaks into every exquisite spray of wealth and beauty. Midway in this sequestered bay, embowered in orchards, and shaded from the white winding road by tall evergreens, stands 'Coxhorne House,' once the residence of the family to whom the chief portion of the hills and valleys around belong, and here the greater portion of the poet's married life has been passed. He was never sent to a school, either public or private; his father having strong prejudices in favour of home education; and with the aid of their mother and a tutor, he educated his ten children himself, and has very successfully established the possibility of the highest and noblest culture by such a process. At twelve years of age the boy entered his father's counting-house as a clerk, a position which he filled for fifteen years, and so assiduously and dutifully that the good old gentleman, a capital judge in such matters, was proud to testify that he never had a better clerk. While engaged in this somewhat ungenial employment he wrote," &c. &c. —What mortal cares to read this trumpery? In the female biographies the disproportion of

allotted space is often absurd. Twelve lines suffice for a life of Queen Victoria; but two hundred and eighty barely suffice for Miss Strickland, the biographer of Queens.

As specimens of the better sort of information contained in the volume, we extract accounts of two very different celebrities. Here is the note on General Havelock:—

Havelock, Major-General Henry, C.B., was born at Bishopwearmouth in 1795, and educated at the Charterhouse. About 1813, in consequence of adverse fortune, Ingress Park, his father's property in Kent, was sold to Government, and Havelock was entered of the Middle Temple, and attended the lectures of Chitty, the eminent special pleader, where his most intimate associate was the late Sir Thomas Talfourd, the author of 'Ion.' An elder brother had distinguished himself in the Peninsular war and at Waterloo; and Henry, yielding to the military propensities of his family, endeavoured to obtain a commission. A month after Waterloo he was appointed Second Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade (the 95th), where his military training was assisted by Captain (afterwards Sir) Harry Smith, the victor of Aliwal. Havelock served for eight years in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and having at length exchanged into the 13th Light Infantry, embarked for India in 1823. Next year the first Burmese war broke out, and Havelock was appointed Deputy-Assistant-Adjutant-General, and was present at the actions at Napadee, Patanagoh, and Paghan. At the close of the war he was associated with Captain Lumsden and Dr. Knox on a mission to the Court of Ava, and had an audience of the 'Golden Foot,' when the treaty of Yandaboo was signed. In 1827 he published the 'History of the Ava Campaign,' and in that year he was appointed Adjutant of the Military Depot formed at Chinsurah by Lord Combermere. The Chinsurah establishment having been broken up, Havelock returned to his regiment. He subsequently visited Calcutta, and having passed in the languages at the College, was appointed Adjutant of his corps by Lord William Bentinck. In 1838 he was promoted to a company, after having served twenty-three years as a subaltern. An army was now collected for the invasion of Afghanistan, and Havelock accompanied it on the staff of Sir Willoughby Cotton. He went through the first Afghan campaign, was present at the storming of Ghuznee and the occupation of Cabul, and then returned to India with Sir Willoughby Cotton. Having obtained leave to visit the Presidency, he prepared a 'Memoir of the Afghan Campaign,' which was soon after printed in London. He returned to the Punjab in charge of a detachment, and was placed on the staff of General Elphinstone, as Persian Interpreter. When the Eastern Ghilziez having risen blockaded Cabul, Havelock was sent to join Sir Robert Sale, then marching back to India, and was present at the forcing of the Khoord Cabul Pass, at the action of Tezeen, and all the other engagements of that force till it reached Jellalabad. In the final attack on Mahomed Akbar, in April 1842, which obliged that chief to raise the siege, Havelock commanded the right column, and defeated him before the other columns could come up. For this he was promoted to a brevet Majority, and was made Companion of the Bath. He was then nominated Persian Interpreter to General Pollock, and was present at the action of Manoo Keil, and the second engagement at Tezeen. He then proceeded with Sir John M'Caskill's force into the Kohistan, and had an important share in the brilliant affair at Istaliff. Next year he was promoted to a Regimental Majority, and nominated Persian Interpreter to the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Gough. At the close of 1843 he accompanied the army to Gwalior, and was engaged in the battle of Maharajpore. In 1844 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel by brevet. In 1845 he proceeded with the army to meet the invasion of the Sikhs, and was actively engaged in the battles of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, and Sohraon. At Moodkee he had two horses shot under him; at Sohraon a third horse was smitten down by a cannon-shot, which passed through his

saddle-cloth. On the conclusion of the Sutlej campaign he was appointed Deputy-Adjutant-General of the Queen's troops at Bombay. The second Sikh war now broke out, and his elder brother, Colonel William Havelock, was killed at Ramnuggur. His own regiment, the 53rd, having been ordered into the field, he quitted his staff employment at Bombay in order to join it, and had proceeded as far as Indore when his further progress was countermanded, and he returned to his post. Twenty-five years of incessant and laborious service now began to tell on his constitution, and his medical advisers, in 1849, sent him to Europe for two years for the restoration of his health. He returned to Bombay in 1851, and was soon after made Brevet-Colonel, and appointed, through the kindness of Lord Hardinge, by whose side he had fought in the three battles of the Sutlej, Quarter-master-General, and then Adjutant-General, of Queen's troops in India. On the despatch of the expedition to Persia he was appointed to the second division, and commanded the troops at Mohammerah, the glory of which action was, however, reserved for the naval force. On the conclusion of peace he returned to Bombay, and embarked in the Erin for Calcutta, in which vessel he was wrecked, in April 1857, off the coast of Ceylon. Five days after he obtained a passage in the Fire Queen, and on reaching Calcutta was immediately sent up to Allahabad as Brigadier-General, to command the moveable column, with which he, in several decisive actions, defeated the Mahratta leader, Nena Sahib, slaying his followers in large numbers, and capturing above a score of field-pieces; and whose revenge for which found a vent in the fearful and unheard-of massacre of English ladies and children at Cawnpore—a deed never to be effaced so long as we have British troops on Indian soil. General Havelock was *en route* to the relief of Delhi, but these repeated skirmishes, and the fatigues incident to long marches under an Indian sun, have caused him to return to Lucknow with diminished forces. In consequence of the Government despatches being so very barren of intelligence, we can but inadequately appreciate the services of General Havelock on this trying occasion, yet sufficient is known for us to observe, that no dignity the Crown can confer upon him will be at all equivalent to the indomitable courage displayed by him and his handful of troops. The Commander-in-Chief has conferred upon him the good-service pension of one hundred pounds a year. In the *London Gazette* of Tuesday, the 29th of September 1857, his promotion to the rank of Major-General was expressed as follows:—"In consequence of the eminent services performed by Colonel Henry Havelock, C.B., in command of a division of Her Majesty's army engaged in active operations in the field in India, the Queen has been graciously pleased to command that he be promoted to the rank of Major-General in the army, in conformity with the 10th clause of the Royal Warrant of the 6th October 1854, and that his commission shall bear date the 30th July 1857." About 1828, General Havelock married the youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Marshman of Serampore.

And this may be followed by the notes on Mr. Spurgeon:—

"Spurgeon, the Rev. Charles Haddon, Minister of New Park Street Chapel, Southwark, was born at Kelvedon, in Essex, on the 19th of June, 1834. He was placed for education in a school at Colchester, and as youth advanced he became usher in a school at Newmarket, where Greek and Latin occupied a considerable portion of his spare time. But the study of divinity was paramount, and ere long his family became aware of his desire to shine as a preacher. Some of his relatives being Independents, naturally proposed that he should enter one of their colleges, and undergo a regular training for the ministry among that body. But the young divine demurred to this, and as his father presided over a Baptist Chapel at Tollesbury, near Maldon, in Essex, he imbibed the notion that 'dipping' was to be preferred to 'sprinkling;' and in consequence, when scarcely sixteen years of age, at Isleham, a few miles from Newmarket, under-

went the ceremony of immersion by water. Mr. Spurgeon not long afterwards joined himself to the Church formerly presided over, we believe, by the late Robert Hall, at Cambridge, and from this period he became almost entirely a village preacher and tract distributor; and soon received an appointment as missionary from the Lay Preachers' Association. At Teversham, a village near Cambridge, Mr. Spurgeon, under the designation of 'the Boy Preacher,' delivered his first sermon; and shortly afterwards a little Baptist Church (if a barn can be so called) at Waterbeach invited him to become their pastor. The invitation was accepted; but as the poor villagers could afford him very little as a salary, he continued his labours of tuition at Cambridge to eke out a sustenance. The lad of seventeen had now become a celebrated character: the barn at Waterbeach was filled with auditors, while listening crowds contented themselves with the sound of his voice from the outside. Invitations to preach were sent him from the surrounding places; and having his heart in the work, he from henceforth became an itinerant, preaching every day one sermon, and very frequently two. A man of this stamp could not long remain hid among country villages. His fame reached London; and the church at New Park Street, in Southwark, whose pulpit had in former days been occupied by Dr. Rippon, now courted his favours. This call being accepted, Mr. Spurgeon made his first appearance before a London audience in 1853, with so much success, that ere two years had passed away it was considered necessary to enlarge the building. In consequence of which he officiated for four months at Exeter Hall; and that edifice was always so crowded, that hundreds had to retrace their steps, footsore and weary, without even a glimpse of the preacher. This enlargement of Park Street, however, was but of little use. His disciples multiplied so rapidly, that it became expedient to engage the Surrey Music Hall; and within its walls, in October 1856—the night of the lamentable accident—ten thousand persons were congregated. Here, forgetting all social distinctions, may now be seen the peer and the peasant, the Churchman and the Dissenter, the literate and the illiterate, drinking in with avidity every syllable enunciated by the preacher; and when these thousands raise their voices in the hymn of praise, the effect may be imagined but cannot well be described. Mr. Spurgeon is a good textuary; he is at no loss for an expression or a simile; his language is plain; he never minces his words to suit the tastes of his auditory; and the earnestness of his manner forbids one to doubt of his sincerity. The rise of so young a man has been an era in our history of the religious world. Like other stars, Mr. Spurgeon has made a provincial tour, both in England and Scotland; in the latter country he undertook to address in English a body of kilted aborigines, who understood little more than their native Gaelic, but who attended out of respect to their own dominion. Mr. Spurgeon did his best to enlighten their understandings, and everything went on pleasantly enough while their mulls produced a supply of snuff; but when that necessary ingredient to a Scotchman's comfort failed, one of them turned his face towards the door and the rest followed in rapid succession; so that before the reverend gentleman had reached the nineteenth head of his discourse he was left alone in his glory. As an author, Mr. Spurgeon is as yet of no note; his productions have chiefly been the republication of old authors. Of his sermons, however—those revised by himself alone—upwards of ten thousand are printed weekly."

We advise the proprietors of a work which is the sole reference possessed by a large section of readers for contemporary facts, to carry on their task of retrenchment and reform.

*Omphalos: an Attempt to Untie the Geological Knot.* By Philip H. Gosse. (Van Voorst.)

In most of his scientific works Mr. Gosse has displayed a decidedly theological tendency. He is not satisfied with the facts and laws of nature, he must needs clothe them with his own

theological views and speculations. As long as such views are not offensively dogmatical, there is no objection to them, and perhaps they serve occasionally to relieve the dry details of scientific descriptions. In his former works his theology was subservient to his science; but in the present one he makes his science subservient to his theology.

In his Preface Mr. Gosse states the object of his work. He believes that amidst all their labours and conclusions geologists have forgotten one thing. As the astronomers were puzzled to account for the disturbances of Uranus till after the discovery of Neptune, so Mr. Gosse believes that geologists have been wrong from having missed a law which he has stumbled on:

"I venture to suggest in the following pages an element, hitherto overlooked, which disturbs the conclusions of geologists respecting the antiquity of the earth. Their calculations are sound on the recognised premises; but they have not allowed for the Law of Prochronism in Creation."

What this law of Prochronism is we may perhaps best exemplify from the anecdote in Dr. Livingstone's recent book, which we have already quoted. The Scotch quarryman, who told Dr. Livingstone that—"When God made the rocks he made the shells in them," announced what Mr. Gosse, in more scientific language, calls the "law of Prochronism in creation."

Before Geology could be said to have had a scientific existence, and the Bible was the only book that pretended to deal with the great fact of the history of the world, the theory of the Scotchman was the one which even philosophers accepted as a temporary explanation. But as facts accumulated it became evident that the shells which were found in limestone and other rocks must have had an origin similar to other shells, and hence that they must have at one time been the abodes of living animals, and that these had resided at the bottom of the ocean. The conclusion was also arrived at with regard to the remains of plants and animals higher in the scale of creation than shell-fish, that they had lived in previous periods of the world's history, and having been carried to the bottoms of lakes, rivers, and seas, were heaved up by the matters deposited on them from the water in which they were immersed. These phenomena were found to be precisely analogous to those going on at the present day: hence it was inferred, that the rocks now on dry ground, and high above the level of the sea, and containing the remains of animals and plants, must at one time have been at the bottom of the sea. In order to attain their present position it was only necessary to suppose that a longer period had elapsed in the creation of the world than was usually supposed to have taken place. At first these views were opposed, especially on religious grounds; but gradually the intelligent leaders of the various religious sects became convinced of the untenableness of the view that the world had either been recently created or that when the rocks were made the shells were made in them. Nay more, several Biblical scholars, amongst whom Dr. Pye Smith should always be named by geologists with gratitude, came forward to show that the proper interpretation of the text of Scripture did not require that any such view of Creation should be taken at all. In spite, however, of the settlement of this question between the most learned and competent parties on both sides, Mr. Gosse re-opens the dispute. He thinks geologists are wrong, and steps forward to obtrude his views of the interpretation of Scripture upon the theologians. He is an advocate of what he calls a "Brachy-chronology," in opposition to a "Macro-chronology."

He founds the reasonableness of his views not upon observation, but upon a deduction derived from what he regards as a necessary hypothesis. There are two ways of explaining the existence of species of animals and plants on the surface of the earth. Either the higher species have been derived from the lower—the Lamarckian hypothesis—or all species have been created at some period in time. The latter is the view of most naturalists of the present day, and on it Mr. Gosse takes his stand.—

"I have, in my postulates, begged the fact of creation, and I shall not, therefore, attempt to prove it. Creation, the sovereign fiat of Almighty Power, gives us the commencing point, which we in vain seek in nature. But what is creation! It is the sudden bursting into a circle. Since there is no one stage in the course of existence, which more than any other affords a natural commencing point, whatever stage is selected by the arbitrary will of God, must be an un-natural, or rather a pre-natural, commencing point. The life-history of every organism commenced at some point or other of its circular course. It was created, called into being, in some definite stage. Possibly, various creatures differed in this respect; perhaps some began existence in one stage of development, some in another; but every separate organism had a distinct point at which it began to live. Before that point there was nothing; this particular organism had till then no existence; its history presents an absolute blank; it was not. But the whole organization of the creature thus newly called into existence, looks back to the course of an endless circle in the past. Its whole structure displays a series of developments, which as distinctly witness to former conditions as do those which are presented in the cow, the butterfly, and the fern of the present day. But what former conditions? The conditions thus witnessed unto, as being necessarily implied in the present organization, were non-existent; the history was a perfect blank till the moment of creation. The past conditions or stages of existence in question, can indeed be as triumphantly inferred by legitimate deduction from the present, as can those of our cow or butterfly; they rest on the very same evidences; they are identically the same in every respect, except in this one, that they were unreal. They exist only in their results; they are effects which never had causes. Perhaps it may help to clear my argument if I divide the past developments of organic life, which are necessarily, or at least legitimately, inferrible from present phenomena, into two categories, separated by the violent act of creation. Those unreal developments whose apparent results are seen in the organism at the moment of its creation, I will call *prochronic*, because time was not an element in them; while those which have subsisted since creation, and which have had actual existence, I will distinguish as *diachronic*, as occurring during time."

In this passage lies the point of the whole of Mr. Gosse's argument. If animals and plants were created full grown, and at the adult stage of their development, then they possessed organs which, if seen by an anatomist the minute after their creation, he would have concluded had taken time to grow, and present themselves in their perfected form. Thus a perfect bird would lead to the inference that its feathers and other organs had been developed according to known laws, that it had been a chick in the egg, and the egg had been laid by a parent bird. The same argument applies to plants. We now give a quotation from Mr. Gosse, in which he applies this argument deductively to the phenomena presented by the earth's surface.—

"It is certain that, when the Omnipotent God proposed to create a given organism, the course of that organism was present to his idea, as an ever-revolving circle, without beginning and without end. He created it at some point in the circle, and gave it thus an arbitrary beginning; but one which



involved all previous rotations of the circle, though only as ideal, or, in other phrase, prochronic. Is it not possible—I do not ask for more—that, in like manner, the natural course of the world was projected in his idea as a perfect whole, and that He determined to create it at some point of that course, which act, however, should involve previous stages, though only ideal or prochronic? All naturalists have speculated upon the great plan of Nature; a grand array of organic essences, in which every species should be related in like ratio to its fellow species, by certain affinities, without gaps and without redundancies; the whole constituting a beautiful and perfect unity, a harmonious scheme, worthy of the infinite Mind that conceived it. Such a perfect plan has never been presented by any existing Fauna or Flora; nor is it made up by uniting the fossil Faunas and Floras to the recent ones; yet the discovery of the fossil world has made a very signal approach to the filling up of the great outline; and the more minutely this has been investigated, the more have hiatuses been bridged over, which before yawned between species and species, and links of connexion have been supplied which before were lacking. It is not necessary, at least, it does not seem so to me,—that all the members of this mighty commonwealth should have an actual, a diachronic existence; any more than that, in the creation of a man, his fetal, infantile, and adolescent stages should have an actual, diachronic existence, though these are essential to his normal life-history. Nor would their diachronism be more certainly inferrible from the physical traces of them, in the one case than in the other. In the newly-created Man, the proofs of successive processes requiring time, in the skin, hairs, nails, bones, &c., could in no respect be distinguished from the like proofs in a man of to-day; yet the developments to which they respectively testify are widely different from each other, so far as regards the element of time. Who will say that the suggestion, that the strata of the surface of the earth, with their fossil Floras and Faunas, may possibly belong to a prochronic development of the mighty plan of the life-history of this world,—who will dare to say that such a suggestion is a self-evident absurdity? If we had no example of such a procedure, we might be justified in dealing cavalierly with the hypothesis; but it has been shown that, without a solitary exception, the whole of the vast vegetable and animal kingdoms were created,—mark! I do not say *may* have been, but *MUST* have been created—on this principle of a prochronic development, with distinctly traceable records. It was the law of organic creation.

We would only remark on this passage, that it is one pregnant with instruction as to the danger of reasoning from analogy. Defying all the laws of inductive science, Mr. Gosse assumes the truth of an hypothesis; and, with conclusions arrived at on this ground, endeavours to overthrow the laws arrived at by the colligation of perhaps as large a number of facts as could be presented in any department of human inquiry. Admitting the necessity of the hypothesis of the creation of the species of living animals, there is no necessity whatever for any such explanation of the occurrence of fossils in the strata of the earth. It is setting all laws at defiance to accept the least tenable of two explanations, when the weaker one has a considerable amount of experience in its favour; but to thrust forward an absurd assumption founded upon another, and that only a probable assumption, is to degrade the pursuit of science to that of a vain logomachy. Mr. Gosse may answer that his regard for the Sacred Book is his excuse. Then, why does he not think it equally right to attempt, with some zealots in another Church than that to which we suppose he belongs, to upset our present system of astronomy, on the ground that Joshua commanded the sun to stand still? All Biblical scholars allow, that in its philosophical statements, the Bible adopts the prevailing systems of belief amongst the people at the time. If in this case Mr. Gosse has thought

fit to make use of his extensive knowledge of natural history for the purpose of writing a controversial book, why should he not take up some of the other points on which the statements of the Bible are not in accordance with modern science? Why does he not attempt to prove that the seat of the affections is in the heart, and of the emotions in the bowels? He might also apply his theory to the explanation of the difficulties of Egyptian chronology. If fossils are prochronic, why should not the Pyramids, and the destroyed cities of the ancient world be so? There are no difficulties in history that might not be settled by such a convenient theory. Books on such subjects probably would sell.

*Farina: a Legend of Cologne.* By George Meredith. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

A cradle for legend more richly dight with everything that is fantastic, antique, and precious than Cologne—the City of the Three Kings, and the birthplace of Cornelius Agrippa—hardly exists. To this day, that Rhine-town bears more of the physiognomy of a seaport than any other city we know, as a place where people from many countries have gathered together and settled themselves. The names above the shops—the books in the shop-windows—would of themselves tell this were they run through. Here we find a collection of national tunes by an amateur of the place, signed Zuccamaglio. There we come on fountains of sweet waters springing out in delicate contention with the “odious savours” familiar to every tourist (not a whiff worse than those which swelter on the stairs of many an Italian palace), presided over by Zanoli and Farina. We fancied, from the title of his legend, that the lively Author of ‘The Shaving of Shagpat’ was about to introduce us into that exquisite flower-garden from which these “blessings flow,”—that he intended to tell us under what configuration of planets, in what month of the sun’s year, blossom and bud, and leaf and stem, were to be gathered,—and to name the craftsman who made the first alembic, in which the mixture thereof was distilled;—but, though his tale has “Farina” on its label, let none tap it (to use Horace Walpole’s favourite verb) expecting anything fragrant, or soft, or gentle.—Wild it is, on the contrary, and impudent and fierce:—full of a riotous, abundant fancy, such as we have not fallen in with of late. It is a masque of ravishers in steel,—of robber knights, who sat on their towers looking up and down the gorges of the Eifel to see what manner of prey might be coming,—of water-women more terribly fascinating than Loreley,—of monks nearly as sharp in dealing with the Great Too-well-known as St. Dunstan himself.—It has also a brave and tender deliverer and a heroine proper for a romance of Cologne. We cannot better afford a specimen of our romancer’s manner than by giving a glimpse of the said heroine, in the attitude of the *Lady of Shalott*,—only with a partner over her web:—

“Now Margarita was ambitious of completing a certain tapestry for presentation to Kaiser Heinrich on his entry into Cologne after his last campaign on the turbaned Danube. The subject was again her beloved Siegfried slaying the dragon on Drachenfels. Whenever Aunt Lisbeth indulged in any bitter virginity, and was overmatched by Margarita’s frank maidenhood, she hung out this tapestry as a flag of truce. They were working it in bits, not having contrivances to do it in a piece. Margarita took Siegfried, and Aunt Lisbeth the Dragon. They shared the crag between them. A roughish gleam of the Rhine towards Nonnenwerth could be already made out; Roland’s Corner hanging like a

sentinel across the chanting island, as one top-heavy with long watch. Aunt Lisbeth was a great proficient in the art, and had taught Margarita. The little lady learnt it, with many other gressome matters, in the Palatine of Bohemia’s family. She usually talked of the spectres of Höllebogenblitz Castle in the passing of the threads. Those were dismal spectres in Bohemia, smelling of murder and the charnel-breath of midnight. They uttered noises that wintered the blood, and revealed sights that stiffened hair three feet long; ay, and kept it stiff! Margarita placed herself on a settle by the low-arched window, and Aunt Lisbeth sat facing her. An evening sun blazoned the buttresses of the Cathedral, and shadowed the work-frames of the peaceful couple to a temperate light. Margarita unrolled a sampler sheathed with twists of divers coloured threads, and was soon busy silver-threading Siegfried’s helm and horns.—‘I told you of the steward, poor Kraut, did I not, child?’ inquired Aunt Lisbeth, quietly clearing her throat.—‘Many times!’ said Margarita, and went on humming over her knee:—

Her love was a Baron,  
A Baron so bold;  
She loved him for love,  
He loved her for gold.

—‘He must see for himself, and be satisfied,’ continued Aunt Lisbeth; ‘and Holy Thomas to warn him for an example! Poor Kraut!’—‘Poor Kraut!’ echoed Margarita.

The King loved wine, and the Knight loved wine,  
And they loved the summer weather:  
They might have loved each other well,  
But for one they loved together.

—‘You may say, poor Kraut, child!’ said Aunt Lisbeth. ‘Well! his face was before that as red as this dragon’s jaw, and ever after he went about as white as a pullet’s egg. That was something wonderful!’—‘That was it!’ chimed Margarita.

O the King he loved his lawful wife,  
The Knight a lawless lady;  
And ten on one made ringing strife,  
Beneath the forest shady.

—‘Fifty to one, child!’ said Aunt Lisbeth. ‘You forget the story. They made Kraut sit with them at the jabbering feast, the only mortal there. The walls were full of eye-sockets without eyes, but phosphorus instead, burning blue and damp.’—‘Not to-night, Aunt dear! It frightens me so,’ pleaded Margarita, for she saw the dolor coming.—‘Night! when it’s broad mid-day, thou timid one! Good Heaven take pity on such as thou! The dish was seven feet in length by four broad. Kraut measured it with his eye, and never forgot it. Not he! When the dish-cover was lifted, there he saw himself lying, boiled!’—‘I did not feel uncomfortable then,’ Kraut told us. ‘It seemed natural.’ His face, as it lay there, he says, was quite calm, only a little wrinkled, and piggish-looking-like. There was the mole on his chin, and the pucker under his left eyelid. Well! the Baron carved. All the guests were greedy for a piece of him. Some cried out for breast; some for toes. It was shuddering cold to sit and hear that! The Baroness said, “Cheek!”—‘Ah!’ shrieked Margarita, ‘that can I not bear! I will not hear it, Aunt: I will not!’—‘Cheek!’ Aunt Lisbeth reiterated, nodding to the floor.—Margarita put her fingers to her ears.—‘Still, Kraut says, even then he felt nothing odd. Of course he was horrified to be sitting with spectres, as you and I should be; but the first tremble of it was over. He had plunged into the bath of horrors, and there he was. I’ve heard that you must pronounce the names of the Virgin and Trinity, sprinkling water round you all the while for three minutes; and if you do this without interruption, everything shall disappear. So they say. “Oh! dear Heaven of mercy!” says Kraut, “what I felt when the Baron laid his long hunting-knife across my left cheek!”’—Here Aunt Lisbeth lifted her eyes to doat upon Margarita’s fright. She was very displeased to find her niece, with elbows on the window-sill and hands round her head, quietly gazing into the street.

We will not pretend to say what the maiden saw in the street, and what came of the sight. Those who love a real, lively, audacious piece of extravagance by way of a change from well-meant tales of reformatory schools, or of the

strong-minded woman, whose "pride of sex" makes her propose to the gentleman as to the weaker vessel,—those who may be tired of Transatlantic namby-pamby, and of Parisian quarter-worldliness,—those who do not object to goblins at Christmas-time, nor to Paladins seven or seventy feet high, who ride rides outdoing the ride in Mr. Browning's capital ballad,—will enjoy 'Farina,' as a full-blooded specimen of the nonsense of Genius.—Readers of the class of Mr. Burchell need not trouble themselves to cut the leaves of the legend.

*The Three Sergeants; or, Phases of the Soldier's Life: being Recollections of Military Service in Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, India and the Crimea, with Details of the Battles of Quatre-Bras, Waterloo, Alma, Inkerman, Balaklava and Sebastopol.* By Thomas Morris, William Morris and William Morris, jun. (Effingham Wilson.)

It is only in modern warfare that we find historians as well as fighters among the subordinate ranks. We wish such a circumstance had distinguished the ancient system—school-boys and the public generally would have greatly profited thereby. Cæsar wrote very dignified Commentaries, and he does not omit the incident of the "colour-serjeant" of the 10th legion, who leaped into the sea with his eagle and dashed forward to the British coast, while the Roman troops were looking down over the sides of their ships at the depth of the water, and hesitating between a ducking and dishonour. We should, however, have been glad if we could have possessed any account of the dashing affair, given by him—the anonymous hero whom Cæsar indicates, but does not name—in the words "*qui x legionis aquilam ferebat*." He was a stout-hearted fellow, who talked of *officium* and said nothing about *gloria*. "Duty" was the only word on his lips. One would have rejoiced to hear so honest and so brave a fellow narrate the incidents of the war that came within his ken; how he may have tried to talk with the British hostages; how the commissariat went on in Kent, how the horses of Commius flourished on this side of the water, how the hardy soldiers turned ship-wrights at a pinch, how Cassivellaunus looked at his levies, and how jolly the colour-serjeant and his comrades were in cooking and eating the hares, geese and chickens which the simple aborigines reared to look at, but not to dine upon. So we would willingly exchange a good deal we know about the battle of Philippi, to be made acquainted by an eye-witness of the precise incident which caused Horace to drop his shield and fly. We should like to know what those around the valiant versifier exclaimed when he committed his act of immortal cowardice, to which he afterwards gave a religious touch by declaring that he achieved it by the especial aid and influence of a god:—

*Sed me per hostes Mercurius celer,  
Denso paventem sustulit ære.*

Again, we have Marathon as a grand picture, but we should like to hear what subalterns on either side might have had to say on that critical position of the struggle, when Persians and Sæce broke through the Athenian phalanx and chased the tribes led by Aristides and Themistocles over the plain and up the valley towards the inner country. How many an anecdote have we lost for want of a small chronicler to tell us what was said, thought, suggested, or achieved before Miltiades recovered the glory of the day! There were Macedonian officers in Alexander's army who kept journals, for Arrian has quoted them, but these were the journals of generals of division, and though we

see more pleasantly therefrom how things went at Arbela, we should have had other and equally useful information had any quartermaster in Meleager's troop jotted down his experience—any subaltern in the brigade of Perdicas written home letters to his friends, who afterwards published them—or any attendant of Amyniæ, who left his brigade to go a-recruiting, been able to tell us whether that dashing cavalry officer was delighted or otherwise at not having to encounter the Arachosian cavalry of the fierce enemy in front. Some generals, indeed, have been anecdotal enough, and nothing can well be more lively than the 'Retreat of the Ten Thousand.' We are indebted to its gallant author, Xenophon, for many an admirable incident. Among others, to that episode which tells us of those tipping Armenians who sucked their beer or barley-wine through reeds, as Jonathan does his sherry-cobbler. It was beneath the author to say much more, but it is a pity that some valiant trooper did not hand down to us the incidents of the jollifications that went on among the Armenians and the Greeks. We have the bills of fare, and even something more;—we see generally the luscious joints, the "plenty of bread—both wheaten and barley,"—the funny fellows crowned with hay garlands, the mutual strangers bawling to each other in languages which neither could understand, and then drinking to each other by stooping down to the beer jars and loudly drawing through the straw reeds that potent beverage, so "exceedingly pleasant," as Xenophon remarks, "to those who were used to it." For want, however, of a subaltern chronicler we lack a thousand incidents that would have laid open to us the inner life of these rollicking Armenians, and of less hospitable hosts whose territory was passed over by the renowned "Ten Thousand."

In these later days we are more fortunate,—as the modest volume before us amply serves to show. It contains the experiences of three sergeants, two brothers, and the son of the younger brother. The elder brother is the responsible author and editor. In the first capacity he goes over well-beaten ground, where his brother and himself won promotion and medals. In the second, he details chiefly the adventures of his nephew, as they are connected with those of brave companions, gallant allies and worthy foemen. Each serjeant, however, speaks in the first person, and the book is all the more lively,—for, after all, each man does, in effect, tell his own story.

The eldest serjeant did not commence his career very promisingly,—of which the following incident, which occurred at Stralsund, which was then in charge of the British, will show.—

"Though we were billeted on the inhabitants, yet we had our regular rations, and were prohibited from taking anything from them without paying for it. As I had not yet been three months from home, the severity of the duties pressed very hard on me; and one night while on sentry on a post of very considerable importance, although I knew that the safety of the town might depend on my vigilance, yet I really felt so overpowered by sleep that I could not resist it, so laying myself down on the ground, with my firelock by my side, I fell asleep. Time passed quickly, and I was awakened by a most terrific dream, an immense lion, I fancied, was about springing on me. In the utmost terror I started to my feet, instinctively grasping my musket, and heard footsteps approaching. I had sufficient presence of mind to give the usual challenge, 'Who comes there?' and 'The grand rounds' was the reply. I demanded 'Stand fast, grand rounds; advance, serjeant, and give the countersign.' The serjeant advanced a few paces, pronounced the mystic words, and I called out

'Pass on, grand rounds, all's well.' It would not have been 'well' for me, had they caught me asleep, as the punishment for such a crime, at such a time, and under such circumstances, would have been very severe. In a few moments afterwards, the relieving sentinel came round, so that I had been a long time asleep. I did not feel any more inclination to sleep that night, I thanked God for my deliverance, and vowed never again to indulge in a 'nap' while on sentry."

An incident from the second serjeant's story will not be found inapt at the present moment.—

"We landed at Point de Galle on the 2nd of September, 1817, and marched from thence to Colombo; but the 83rd relieving us there, we were transferred to Trincomalee to relieve the 19th regiment, who were at length permitted to return to England after a twenty years' absence. General Brownrigg was our governor, and under his orders a long and desultory war was carried on against the natives, extremely harassing to the parties engaged in it, which simply consisted of detachments from two regiments, occasionally assisted by the marines from the man-of-war Minden, and Orlando, frigate, and a body of Sepoy and Malay native troops. Frequent attacks were made upon the enemy, who, though they fought bravely, and had plenty of the munitions of war, were yet obliged to retire from their intrepid assailants, who were steadily and securely advancing towards the capital. This description of warfare was not much liked by us, inasmuch as, though we ran the chance of losing life or limb, there was no honour or credit to be gained by it. Our detached parties were often in danger of being cut off by the insidious foe, who, in such cases, inflicted on the unfortunate captives a torture and mutilation too horrible and too disgusting to mention; and the bare liability of our men to these atrocities, provoked a spirit of retaliation rarely resorted to among civilized nations; and some who, under ordinary circumstances, had not been remarkable for the possession of courage, did here exhibit traits of bravery which elicited commendation from the officers who witnessed them. This was especially the case with a young Irishman, named M'Loughlin, one of our 2nd battalion; he was so effeminate in his appearance and manners, and so fastidiously neat and clean in his person and appointments, that he had obtained the nickname of 'The Lady M'Loughlin.' He was with us when the line of battle was formed on the field of Waterloo, on the 17th, at night; and two of his comrades being killed by a six-pound shot, sent as a special favour by the enemy's light artillery with a view of ascertaining the distance, the suddenness of this casualty had such an effect on the nerves of our delicate friend, that he fainted. How he was disposed of that night and the following day, during the battle, 'this deponent saith not'; but some few days afterwards he turned up at Brussels, on the sick list. But in contending against the savage foe, in Ceylon, the fear of having his delicate form mutilated brought out the latent courage of our young hero in such a striking and effectual manner, that the general, who witnessed his bravery, instantly promoted him to the rank of serjeant; and gave orders that he should not be reduced from that rank except by the sentence of a garrison court-martial; and from that time there was an evident improvement in his conduct as a soldier, and he strove to keep up the prestige he had acquired for his bravery."

The third serjeant is chiefly occupied with the Russian War. It is a matter of astonishment to him—and not, indeed, to him alone—that the enemy, with the overpowering force he possessed, did not hold out longer, and, indeed, that he failed, with all his advantages, to carry off the crowning triumph. How the Morris continued to serve their country may be gathered from a modest phrase touching Inkermann:—"Our family was wonderfully preserved here,—myself and brother, hotly engaged, and yet mercifully spared." An anecdote of this battle shows an especial peril encountered by General Bosquet, as he came up with the gallant French

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to help our little band, fighting at the moment against odds of fourteen to one.—

"At this moment that brave general was, perhaps, never so near death, for we had a man in our light company, an American, named 'Warrent,' who was armed with a Minie, and was considered one of our best marksmen, and as he saw the French advancing on our left, mistaking them for Russians, he said to his serjeant, 'Brophey, see me bring that Russian officer down.' The serjeant, by a motion of his hand, turned the piece away, and, in all human probability, saved the general's life. The circumstance was immediately reported to the captain, Fairlough, so that the fact can be well authenticated."

We add how William Morris, jun., gained his War Medal.—

"It is not for me to say much about myself, but I think no one will dispute the fact that I did my duty. At the close of the battle I saw some Russians advancing, so collected together a few of our stragglers, and taking the command of them, we drove the enemy back. For this special service I have been rewarded with the gold war medal from the French Emperor."

We recommend this modest volume to our readers; they will close it with the feeling that the only thing that can ever fail English soldiers is efficiency in their leaders.

#### MINOR MINSTRELS.

*Psyche's Interludes.* By C. B. Cayley. (Longman & Co.)—After the tragedy comes the farce, and after translating Dante Mr. Cayley shows us that, like the Author of 'City Poems,' he is fond of a joke. The book contains only two Interludes, 'Psyche Lamplit,' and 'Psyche Lovellit'; but is made up of various other matters in which the trickiest spirit of fun twinkles, and the true spirit of poetry is momentarily visible. In a few clever stanzas the author gives us the quintessence of 'Aurora Leigh,' and a very ludicrous prelude to a 'Short time Ago,' concludes thus—giving us Mr. Kingsley's social philosophy in a summary way:—

Thus much I mean; God save our Queen,  
And all brave guards that follow her;  
And teach us our back slums to clean  
Before we hear of Cholera.

—Some of the lines in 'Recollections of an Irish Wake' are characteristic and irresistible. The cousin of the "purthy corpse" (*log*)

The wind it is warblin', and moanin', and cooin'!  
The Divel he knows what the wind would be doin'!  
If the ghost from her coffin came out in the room,  
We'd grow stony and pale as the great day of doom.

There is lights by the coffin in lovely array,  
And surely now, darlin', ye can't missa your way!  
Pass the pipe, Donoghue, man, and shove round the  
whisky.

And we'll talk of out times, and we'll wake her up frisky.

Bill Jackson, ye Saxon, draw closer the fire,  
For the sleet's fallin' thick, and the gust risin' higher;  
Say, "By fire and by sleet, and may Christ her meet!"  
Now it's out o' my head what I mane to complete.

—Mr. Cayley does not do justice to his feeling and fancy in most of the serious pieces: but there is a pleading sweetness in the following lines.—

#### The Cool of the Morning.

Low, as I loved in childhood well,  
The lips of waves that fling  
On tawny sand the pearly shell,  
Are murmuring

From bay so marbled, that one light  
Curl on it hardly shows;  
Its boundaries with the sphere unite  
In mist that glows.

The gathering ardours of the Noon,  
The storms that Eve may scare,  
The solemn pageant of the Moon,  
Are folded there.

Here children play, and counterfeit  
The golden shows of life,—  
Nor guess how parching Passion's heat,—  
How wild the strife!

How long and weariful their day  
To mortals may be given!  
How sweet, and grand, and far away,  
Are the eyes of Heaven.

*Wayside Gatherings.* By E. M. T. (Richardson.)—Some very unpretending verses by a humble follower of Cowper and James Montgomery. There are many persons who would find pleasure in read-

ing them. It is not every tree that bears fruit: many bear leaves only, and are yet welcome and have their place. Many of the pieces have a *dim* religious light, and a quiet kindly feeling. The verse flows nicely without any novelty. One or two of the poems are touched with pleasant humour. In this quotation, for example, we rather like the crow of that crow-like bird the Rook, for the reflection it casts on its human representatives,—also the cheerful way in which the Lark stands up for the Minor Minstrels, and sings his merry song, having no cares for complaint.—

"Good night, Sir Rook," said a little Lark,  
"The daylight fades, it will soon be dark:  
I've bath'd my wings in the sun's last ray,  
I've sung my hymn to the dying day;  
So now I haste to my quiet nook  
In yon dewy meadow;—good night, Sir Rook."

"Good night, poor Lark," said his titled friend,  
With a haughty toss and a distant bend;  
"I also go to my rest profound,  
But not to sleep on the cold damp ground;  
The fittest place for a bird like me  
Is the topmost bough of yon tall pine tree.

I open'd my eyes at peep of day  
And saw you taking your upward way,  
Dreaming your fond romantic dreams,  
An ugly speck in the sun's bright beams;  
Soaring too high to be seen or heard,—  
And said to myself, what a foolish bird.

I trod the park with a princely air;  
I fill'd my crop with the richest fare;  
I call'd all day 'mid a lovely crew,  
And I made more noise in the world than you!  
The sun shone full on my ebony wing;  
I looked and wonder'd,—good night, poor thing!"

"Good night, once more," said the Lark's sweet voice,  
"I see no cause to repent my choice;  
You build your nest in the lofty pine,  
But is your slumber more soft than mine?  
You make more noise in the world than I,  
But whose is the sweeter minstrelsy?"

*Footprints of Life; and other Poems.* By Alsager Hay Hill. (Cheltenham, Davies.)—The first poem is a faint reminiscence of the Byronic Sentimental. Here and there the author hovers about as near to poetry as the countryman who had never seen Her Majesty, but his grandfather had once stood a very near chance of seeing the Duke of York, did to Royalty. For instance—

My soul sped with the wilding lark,  
Whose eddied sweetness onward flew,  
So dream-like in the eternal blue,—

which is quite as near. In a 'Dream of Opium'—dreamt in Morphia's arms?—our author grows more spasmodic, and vapours about the "angel exhalations of the mind" rather cloudily, and talks about "glutting the eagles of his thirsty soul," and out of his dream "wakes up a forest of green ecstasies." His epithet of "fastidious," applied to Spring, we think new, and, considering the way in which that dainty season has treated us of late years, it must be also true.

*The Modern Scottish Minstrel, &c.* By Charles Rogers, LL.D. Vol. VI. (Edinburgh, Black.)—It is owing to the fault of Dr. Rogers, as editor, not of the poverty of Scotland, that we must range his book among the works of "Minor Minstrels." The volume before us is no better than its predecessors. The "Prefatory Observations," by Mr. H. S. Riddell, would be rejected as stale by many a herd-boy or reaper of the North Country, who has his Ramsay and Burns by heart, and knows somewhat of our Shakespeares and Miltons,—who would not be hurt when he is told that Poetry is not Prose, that a Ballad is not an Epic, and that Scotland and England are widely different, with a border betwixt them? Mr. Charles Mackay is the principal minstrel drawn on in this volume, and his songs are among the best of those collected. Others, as for instance the following specimen, by Mr. Outram, are wearisomely vulgar:—

#### Charge on a Bond of Annuity.

I gaed to spend a week in Fife,  
An unco week it proved to be,  
For there I met a wasome wife,  
Lamenting her viduity.  
Her grief brak' out sae fierce and fell,  
I thought her heart wad burst the shell;  
And, I was sae left to myself,  
I sell't her an annuity.

The bargain lookit fair enough,  
She just was turned o' sixty-three;  
I couldna guess'd she'd prove sae teugh  
By human ingenuity.

But years have come, and years have gane,  
And there she's yet as stive's a stane;  
The auld wife's growing young again  
Since she got her annuity.

There are many verses more of the same story. —In other ditties, again, we have *Lingua Franca*, neither Scotch nor English, e.g.—

Do you know what the birds are singing?  
Can you tell their sweet refrains,  
When the green arch'd woods are ringing  
With a thousand swelling strains?

Something kinder may be said of the two songs, 'The Auld Kirk Bell,' and 'The Auld Aik Tree,' by John Halliday, a contemporary author. Yet in these we do not find the minstrel so much as the mocking-bird. To write in peasant dialect now can be natural to no one: and the Northern Minstrel must seek as assiduously for the old tunes of the hedge and harvest-field, as the Ayrshire Ploughman or Ettrick Shepherd or Nithsdale Mason had to seek ere he could be sure that Alexander and Olympus, and Lethe, and Tempe and Parnassus, were judiciously placed in his verses, by way of giving them a polite and classical air. The painters who delighted in representing themselves and friends in the rags of mendicants, were as essentially masqueraders as those who set forth *Juno* in a hoop, or *Saint Clotilda* in the ruff, head-tire and conical petticoat of the court in whose chapel she was to figure. Modern *poetis* in literature is hardly admissible.—To Londoners and to lovers of Spanish Art the greatest curiosity contained in this volume will be the name of Mr. Stirling, of Keir, who is pressed into the ranks of the Scottish Minstrels on the strength of his 'Songs of the Holy Land,' originally published "in a handsome octavo volume in 1848." The shorter of the two specimens lent by him to Dr. Rogers will satisfy most of the many admirers of the 'Life of Velasquez.'—

#### Shallum.

Oh, waste not thy woe on the dead, nor bemoan him  
Who fads with his fathers the grave of his rest;  
Sweet slumber is his, who at night-fall hath thrown him  
Near bosoms that waking did love him the best.  
But sorely bewail him, the weary world-ranger  
Shall ne'er to the home of his people return;  
His weeping worn eyes must be closed by the stranger,  
No tear of true sorrow shall hallow his urn.

And mourn for the monarch that went out of Zion,  
King Shallum, the son of Josiah the Just;  
For he the cold bed of the captive shall die on,  
Afar from his land, nor return to his dust.

In conclusion, this is the last volume of a series which is bad in proportion as the promises made for it were arrogant and high sounding.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

*Mauveverer's Divorce: a Story of Woman's Wrongs.* By the Author of 'Whitefriars,' &c. 3 vols. (Skeet.)—If there can be a greater bore in life than a man with a grievance, it is a woman with wrongs. It is not selfishness that makes society hard-hearted to both classes; it is the instinct of common sense, which dictates that when people cannot right themselves, nor yet set in motion the machinery which might help them, it is more dignified and becoming of rational beings to keep silence, and not let their life dissolve into a spoonful of warm water. Complaints, well or ill founded, soon exhaust "the milder grief of pity." In fact, there is no virtue that so soon evaporates as sympathy; people grow tired of being sorry for what they cannot help, and, becoming angry at a grievance that will not be driven away, they soothe their own feelings by declaring that it is the "people's own fault." Life is a battle, and those who cannot fight for themselves, meet with no quarter. A novel founded on a grievance, is not likely to touch any key-note to popular sympathy,—but rather to make readers turn aside and "pass by the other side." 'Mauveverer's Divorce' is written in a coarse, declamatory, vehement style. The heroine, on her own showing, brings down all her woes upon her own head. Doing as she did, nothing better could have been expected. Equally devoid of common sense and self-control, she lays herself open to a series of fatal coincidences and false appearances, which can bear but one interpretation. Her innocence is problematical, and her ardent protests—



tions make the book very dull reading. Her recording angel might perhaps drop a tear over her "woman's wrongs"; but the conscientious critic can only declare that she has made a very bad use of them, and that "Mauleverer's Divorce" is not a novel of "pleasant pages."

*Almost; or, Crooked Ways; a Tale.* By Anna Lisle. (Groombridge & Sons.)—This is a little book that might have been made a good one. The idea is good, the title is good,—but the story as it stands is an abortive romance of high-class crimes feebly described:—the volcano will not act. Nothing can well be more idiotic than the words and actions of the people; they remind us of an old stage direction in a child's tragedy—"Enter St. Julian chained to a wall; exit in a rage!" We never read so many crimes so compendiously executed, or rather attempted, for we are happy to say that the guardian angel always interferes at the crisis of fate, and wards off the mischief. The dark heroine makes up her mind to poison her rival, the fair one, and walks across the park at ten o'clock at night to go to the village druggist for arsenic. The hero, instead of denouncing her, is content to circumvent her,—substitutes magnesia, and allows it to be administered; and, after such full proof of her murderous intentions, gives her an opportunity to try again with a dagger. The whole story is weak and silly,—beyond permission, it abuses the privilege.

*The Lady of Glynn.* By the Author of 'Marguerite and her Bridesmaids.' 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)—There is a great deal in both excellent and charming in this book. It is extremely well bred, and there is a refinement of tone and of good sense in the sentiment that goes far to atone for the improbabilities, not to say impossibilities, of the story. The Lord of Glynn, who as he eventually "goes off" to be married to Nellie, must be considered the hero, is of the old Byronic type, turned good—a converted Lucifer. The authoress seems enamoured of the strong will and imperious temper which brooks no obstacles and recognizes no opposition, and will give ear to no reason but its own. A genius which in real life is difficult to deal with, and by no means charming, when, from the ideal condition of a lover, he becomes a husband of earthly mould. Little Nellie, the heroine, is a wilful little fairy with her truth and honesty, and wishes to do the thing that is right, at whatever cost to herself. Too much space is accorded to people who are bores, and to conversations which are long drawn out. The mystery of the book, Lady Maria, is never explained, nor the wickednesses by which she has brought sorrow and evil on all connected with her. The story wants body, and the readers are left discontented at being deprived of the explanation to which they had an undoubted right. The chief incident, the vital point on which the story is woven—the forced marriage, is left timidly unexplained, and the canonical difficulties are left unreconciled—the breath vainly spent upon the record of unprofitable conversations and minute incidents about unnecessary people might have been well employed in making the story more substantial, and explaining to the patient and perplexed reader how things came to be in such a situation. The story is like a Chinese picture—it all stands in the air—and there is a fatiguing absence of ground to stand upon. The Author of 'Marguerite and her Bridesmaids' could write another novel still more agreeable if she would give her mind to it. She has a turn for incident and a brisk healthy tone of sentiment, which makes us hope for a stronger and more sustained story than she has hitherto given us.

*Phrenology made Practical and Popularly Explained.* By Frederick Bridges. (Low & Co.)—This is a book on phrenology, with the usual diagrams of heads to illustrate the truth of the science. Amongst others, there is a diagram of the head of Prof. Owen, and underneath it the inscription, "This is the highest type of human head." Now, did it never occur to the author of this book to ascertain the opinions of his "highest type" on the subject of phrenology? If he had done so, he would have found that the profound and philosophic anatomist, whom he justly includes amongst the greatest men, and which he might

have done from his works better than from his head, has no word to say in favour of phrenology. That the brain is the organ of the mind, that its size determines the character of the mind, and that particular parts perform different functions, are demonstrated facts in the science of physiology,—but that the shape of the skull is an index to the particular character of the individual, nobody who has studied the subject philosophically admits. It is the fascination of the promise that phrenology holds out of giving a deeper insight into human character, by very vulgar and superficial means, than can be obtained by even laborious study in any other way, that traps the public into the purchase of such volumes as the above. Hence there is an abundant supply, and every year produces its crop of such scientific abortions.

*Supplement to the Fifth Edition of a Manual of Elementary Geology.* By Sir Charles Lyell. (Murray.)—Sir Charles Lyell is particularly anxious that all geological knowledge should pass under his critical gaze before it gets much before the public mind. Hence he publishes every now and then a supplement to the last editions of those splendid works of his, which, as edition after edition appears, are always a reflection of the present state of geological science. The first part of the present Supplement is occupied with additional remarks on recent additions to our knowledge of the tertiary strata. The completion of Mr. Searle Wood's monograph on the crag and upper tertiary shells of Britain suggests some remarks on British pleistocene strata. The late Prof. E. Forbes's researches on the Isle of Wight strata, and others, have induced Sir Charles to propose a modification of the table of fossiliferous strata. Some new observations on the denudation of the Wealden are next referred to. But the most important subject discussed in this Supplement is the discovery of fossil mammalia in the Purbeck, or upper oolitic strata of Dorsetshire. By the researches of Mr. Beckles in Dorsetstone Bay, near Swanage, ten new species of mammalia have been added to the six previously known as inhabiting the secondary strata of Europe. In addition to these proofs of the existence of more highly organized forms of animals than had been previously suspected to exist, additional evidence has been obtained of the existence of Phanerogamous plants in the coal formation, with which subject, and a short notice on the antiquity of fossil birds, Sir Charles's Supplement concludes.

*Notes on the Geology, Mineralogy, and Springs of England.* By Edwin Adams. (Longman & Co.)—A small book is not always an elementary book, and sometimes quite the contrary. By attempting to do a great deal in a small space, Mr. Adams has failed to make his subject intelligible, or his book readable. There are many better introductions to geology of a small size than the present insignificant production.

*The Economical Housekeeper.* By J. H. Walsh. (Routledge & Co.)—Mr. Walsh, F.R.C.S., has been "assisted by a committee of ladies" in preparing this volume of "practical advice for purchasing the supplies of the house, and for brewing, baking, preserving, and pickling at home," and for managing "the dairy, poultry, laundry, and cellar." The directions occupy upwards of four hundred pages, and are rendered the more available by a copious index, besides being illustrated by "numerous engravings on wood." All the remarks apply to incomes of 100l., 250l., 500l., or 1,000l. a year. They include all possible topics, from the killing of pigs to the manufacture of "pomade divine," from pickling white mushrooms to "shopping" in Regent Street, the repairing of boots and shoes, and the detection of adulterations. Mr. Walsh and his committee seem to have laboured conscientiously upon this compilation, the utility of which housekeepers will undoubtedly appreciate.

*The Metropolitan Local Management Directory and Builders' Guide for 1857* is a useful publication creditably compiled; but the paper covers are somewhat flimsy.—Under the head "Metropolitan Drainage," a parliamentary paper has been issued, containing the Report by Dr. A. W. Hoffmann and Mr. H. M. Witt, On Chemical Investigations.—*Brief Extracts from Memoranda of the Earl of Dundonald on the Use, Properties, and Products of the Bitumen*

and Petroleum of Trinidad, refer to certain projected embankments in the metropolis, and to other works in which the substances indicated are available. Among pamphlets of more modest appearance we have Mr. Alexander Platt's *New Financial Scheme, or Proposals for Re-adjusting the Balance of Taxation in favour of the Poor*,—Mr. Horace Mann's *Civil Service Competitions considered as a means of Promoting Popular Education*,—Lieut. J. Kingsley's *Invention, Water instead of Coals the Impelling Power, Steam Entirely Superseded*,—and *Our Future Cotton Supply, a Statement of Facts*, in which Mr. John Westwood seeks to show that by extending works of irrigation and navigation in Southern India, "an immediate and inexhaustible supply of cotton will be secured to Great Britain."

—Two of the miscellanies on our table refer to medical reform, the first being a *Letter to Viscount Palmerston*, by J. G. M. Burt, and the second Lord Elcho's *Speech*, delivered in the House of Commons in July of the present year.—"A Lancashire Man" publishes *A Few Words on Ballot and Reform*, addressed to Lord John Russell,—and Mr. R. Morris an interesting tract on *The Etymology of Local Names, with a short Introduction to the Relationship of Languages*.—Poems, inspired by certain Pictures at the Art-Treasures Exhibition, Manchester, are intended, we suppose, as satires.

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## THE PERIOD OF DANTE'S VISION.

Newington Butts, Surrey, Nov. 21.

THERE is scarcely a circumstance of any importance connected with the immortal Author of the 'Divina Commedia' that has not become a matter of controversy to the commentators, and a subject of keen dispute among the critics.

The exact day of Dante's birth is involved in uncertainty; and lately a learned Roman sought to show that the day of his death might also be doubted. When he began to write the 'Divina Commedia' is a question only a little less difficult to answer satisfactorily, than is another question—"When did he finish it?" We can show from internal evidence that certain portions were not written before certain years; but the question—"When did he first begin the poem?" cannot thus be answered, nor can we specify the time when he ended it. That the first seven cantos were written by Dante before his exile in 1302, though reported to have been found among his papers in Florence five years after, not even Giovanni Boccaccio could understand; and it required a miraculous vision of Dante's Ghost '*vestito di candidissimi vestimenti*,' as the same author relates, to find out what he had done with the last thirteen.

The period of Dante's Vision has always been a subject of doubt; some placing the beginning of it in March, others in April, with a variation in the day of the month, that would almost lead one to suspect the veracity of mathematics themselves. Much, however, of this discrepancy has arisen from the circumstance of not keeping steadily in view the fact related of the full moon, though even here a question has been raised as to whether the said full moon is to be regarded as the *real* full moon, or only that which appeared in the calendar. It has been asked "How could Dante know when the *real* full moon was? The Church recognized only the calendar one, and he who acknowledged and received a full moon different to that of the Church would probably have incurred an accusation of heresy." The question involves a difference of two days.

When Dante entered on his visionary voyage and found himself astray in the Selva, the moon was at the full, and the sun in Aries, or among those stars which at the creation, as it was supposed, were in that sign, and it was the anniversary of the death of Christ.

There was an early tradition preserved among the Christian Fathers, that the morning of the creation corresponded to the 25th of March, and this was also the day which those venerable men fixed upon for that of the death of Christ.

Boccaccio and Landino were both of opinion that the 25th of March was to be understood as the day when Dante began his voyage. Domenico Aretino, quoted by Dionisi in his '*Aneddoti*,' says that the vision begins in March, but does not specify the day of the month; his words are "*pro-fundissimum suae commodiae opus adgressus est anno Domini 1300, anno Gubilei de Mense Martii in die Veneris*;" to this opinion the learned canon himself inclined, but he mentions also another day which he thought might, with good reason, be held to be it, the 12th of March, when at forty minutes past four in the afternoon took place the vernal equinox. One reason for his preferring the 25th of March was from its being a sacred day to Dante, as the Festival of the Annunciation, from which the Republic of Florence dated the commencement of the year; but on neither of these days was the moon at the full.

Pier Francesco Giambullari, who died in 1564, is said to have been the first to ascertain by astronomical tables, that Good Friday of 1300 was on April the 8th; but that the full moon was at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, the 4th, the sun being in the 22° of Aries, and the moon in the 23° of Libra—from this circumstance Pelli, Mazzoni, Lombardi, and others, held that Dante's Vision should be considered to have begun on Monday evening, April the 4th, and his voyage through the regions of departed souls, on Tuesday morning, April the 5th; so that he had time to get to Paradise by Sunday morning, April the 10th. The progressive stages of Dante's course have been in part noted down by him in a sort of time-tables, kept according to the canonical hours, so that from the time he first entered upon it, to that at which he received the consummation of his desires in the highest heaven, and a flash of lightning terminated at once his vision and his voyage, we may calculate, with tolerable accuracy, the number of hours it occupied. It has been suggested that Dante regarded Tuesday, the 5th of April, as the actual anniversary of the death of Christ, because it was the day after the full moon—and according to Tassone, it would appear that, for a similar reason, Petrarca considered the 6th of April, 1327, to have been the anniversary of the Saviour's death, though it was not Friday. In 1300, Easter Sunday was on the 10th of April, that is well known; but on what day of the month was the moon at the full? Hitherto it has been customary to place it on the 4th—this is a mistake, unless the calendar full moon received by the Church be meant; the actual full moon took place two days later. I am indebted to an eminent astronomer, Mr. Hind, who very kindly calculated for me the exact time of the real Paschal full moon of 1300, for the fact that it took place on April the 6th, at 2 A.M., Greenwich mean time: this was Wednesday, consequently, Thursday would be regarded by Dante as the anniversary of the death of Christ, and he would descend into hell at the time of the great commemoration of the Catholic Church, which takes place at Rome on this day, and not, as with the Anglican Reformed Church, on Friday.

In the last canto of the '*Inferno*,' v. 68, Virgil says to Dante:—

Ma la notte risurge, ed oramai  
È da partir, che tutto avem veduto.

The night here alluded to as rising in the hemisphere of Rome, was the night of the second day of the voyage, according to our mode of reckoning; but with Dante and the Italians it was the night of the third day, for the Italian civil day begins and ends at sunset. Shortly after this Virgil makes the remark, that the sun had risen seven and a half degrees in the opposite hemisphere on the Mount of Purgatory.

E già il sole a mezza terza riede.

That is, it was at Rome *mezzo vespero*, or one hour and a half before sunset. The passage through to the opposite hemisphere was long and arduous: it took, as we gather from the description, 19 hours 30 minutes; and this,—added to the 31 hours 30 minutes which had been consumed from the entrance into the infernal regions to that point in the earth's centre

Al qual si traggono d'ogni parte i pesi,  
according to the theory of universal gravitation then in vogue, and where Virgil so ingeniously made use of the Devil to get away from him, gives fifty-one hours for this first part of Dante's memorable voyage, and brings us to a period of time corresponding to noon at Rome on Saturday, April 9th, just that moment when the Church celebrates the Resurrection of our Lord.

Purgatory was a tedious affair to Dante,—it took the best part of four days to get clear of it. His flight through Heaven, however, was very rapid; he appears to have reached the Throne of God in twenty-four hours, thus completing his voyage in six days and a half. If to this period we add the hours passed in the Selva, the whole time of the vision will be exactly one week, from the night of the full moon of Wednesday, April 6th, to the night of the Wednesday following, April 13th, three hours before midnight; or, according to the Italian mode of reckoning, from the even-

ing of Thursday, 7th, to the corresponding time on the evening of Thursday, the 14th.

For the benefit of those students of the '*Divina Commedia*' who would work out the time-tables of Dante for themselves, I add a list of the places where the time is mentioned:—

'Inferno,' canto i. 37; xi. 113; xv. 52; xx. 124; xx. 127; xxi. 112; xxix. 10; xxxiv. 68; xxxiv. 96; xxxiv. 139.

'Purgatory,' canto i. 19; i. 107; i. 115–117; iv. 15; vi. 51; viii. 1; viii. 49; ix. 1; x. 13; xv. 6; xvii. 70; xviii. 76; xix. 37; xxii. 120; xxv. 1; xxvii. 5; xxviii. 112; xxviii. 153; xxxiii. 114.

'Paradise,' canto i. 43; xxii. 127; xxvii. 79; xxvii. 82–87.

These periods of time are best shown by the *Orologio Dantesco*, of which the Padre Ponta was the first, I believe, to publish an example. This moveable diagram is not difficult to make,—Dante has given the data for it, and, with a little consideration, the student may contrive one for himself. I have had mine in use for several years, and have found something of the sort absolutely necessary for a clear conception of many passages.

H. C. BARLOW, M.D.

## OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

We believe that the Queen has appointed Mr. Redgrave, R.A., Surveyor of Her Majesty's Pictures, in the place of the late Mr. Uwins. The duties are said to be extended to a superintendence over all works of Art in the royal collection.

Unlikely things are sometimes found in out-of-the-way places. A copy of the first folio of Shakespeare's plays (1623) has been met with in a carpenter's shop near Maidenhead, and is now in proper hands. It seems that it was sold at a country auction many years ago, and bought, with some other books, for a few shillings by the present owner. A copy of Spenser's Works, folio, 1613, which formerly was the property of one of our greatest poets of that day, has also turned up in the same neighbourhood, together with the second edition of the notorious production of Philip Stubbes, '*The Anatomy of Abuses*.' At Reading, only a few weeks ago, a gentleman purchased three of the tracts of the celebrated Robert Greene, published between 1589 and 1617, including '*The Groat-worth of Wit*,' in which Shakespeare is designated as "the only Shake-scene in a country." It seems not at all improbable that some, if not most, of these rarities originally belonged to the same old library at Ufton Court, near Newbury, out of which Mr. Payne Collier's corrected folio Shakespeare of 1632 is reasonably supposed to have come. Such, there is some evidence to show, was the case with the folio Shakespeare of 1623, which devolved into the hands of the carpenter near Maidenhead. The library of the Perkins family at Ufton Court was sold at the end of the last, or in the beginning of the present century, and the books were probably dispersed over the surrounding neighbourhood.

It is satisfactory to be able to announce that the Bernal Collection of Majolica and other fragile articles, which was lent to the Art-Treasures of Manchester, has been returned safely to the British Museum without any accident. This experiment has proved the feasibility of circulating similar examples from the stores and duplicates of the British Museum for the benefit of provincial museums, and rendering the use of that Museum both national and metropolitan.

We have nothing to do with the following complaint, except to make it public:—

"13, Thistle Street, Edinburgh, Nov. 21.

"As we are very unwilling to be regarded as pirates by the reading public, we entreat your aid in correcting an impression liable to be conveyed by Mr. Bentley's advertisement of his edition of Gustav Freytag's '*Debit and Credit*,' which he announces as the *only copyright edition*, stating that 'the author reserved the copyright of the translation, which has been transferred to the publisher. We believe that the author has at least as great a pecuniary interest in L. C. C.'s translation, published by ourselves, as in that of Mrs. Malcolm;



and we have lately received a letter from himself in which he refers to his work as having been published before the completion of the copyright convention between this country and Saxony. What then is the value of his alleged transference of right to Mr. Bentley? Chevalier Bunsen's introduction gives a certain additional interest to the Edinburgh edition,—and as Mr. Bentley has not scrupled to quote from a letter addressed by that gentleman to Mr. Constable, we think it would have been well that he should have taken care not to mislead the public as to the legitimacy of the publication, in which it has been printed. We are, &c.,

THOMAS CONSTABLE & Co."

It is now more than twelve years since M. Moser, of Königsberg, drew attention to the very remarkable phenomenon of the reproduction of prints, medals, &c., on glass, metal, and other substances, by long-continued juxtaposition. Moser attributed this result to the influence of "invisible light." His views were, however, combated by philosophers; and, the results being generally attributed to heat, the process of thus producing images in the dark was termed "Thermography." On the 15th of November, M. Chevreul, in the Académie des Sciences, described some very remarkable results obtained by M. Niece de Saint-Victor. The substance of this communication was as follows:—"A body having been exposed to light preserves in the dark some impression of the light." This problem appears to be proved by this experiment. Expose to the direct rays of the sun, during a quarter of an hour at least, an engraving, which had been kept for many days in obscurity, and of which one half has been covered with an opaque screen; then apply this print to a sheet of very sensitive photographic paper, and keep them in contact for twenty-four hours in the dark. At the end of that time, there will be obtained in black a reproduction of the whites of that part of the engraving which has not been covered by the screen. Numerous similar experiments, with paper and other substances, are described by M. Niece de Saint-Victor, in all of which he informs us that he has obtained upon collodion plates, upon iodized paper, and other sensitive photographic surfaces, impressions of those parts of prints, &c., which have been exposed to sunshine, whereas, in the same time, no impression was obtained of those parts which were screened from the sun. At present, we shall only name one of these, which we do on account of its very remarkable character. If, after having exposed an engraving to the light during one hour, we apply it upon a sheet of white card which has been kept in the dark for several days; and, having allowed it to remain in contact with the card for twenty-four hours at least, we put the card in contact with a sheet of sensitive paper, we shall have, after this new contact of twenty-four hours, a reproduction of the engraving—a little less visible, it is true, than if the engraving had been applied directly upon the sensitive paper, but yet distinct. These results are given upon the authority of M. Chevreul and M. Niece de Saint-Victor. If confirmed by subsequent experiments, they open out a field of inquiry yet more extensive and surprising than that of photography.

We have received the following odd letter from Mr. P. J. Murray:—

"1, Upper Pembroke Street, Dublin, Nov. 25.  
"In a review of my 'Life of John Banim,' printed in last week's *Athenæum*, the critic, amongst other objections, states that in claiming for Banim the honour of having been the first novelist who represented the Irish character as it really is, I was ignorant of, or ignored, the works of Lady Morgan or Miss Edgeworth. It is quite possible that, viewed by English eyes, the novels of these distinguished writers may appear to show Irish life as it was or is; indeed, I have heard lectures on Irish humour, and on Irish wit, delivered by Englishmen to audiences of their countrymen, (the specimens being selected from 'Florence Macarthy' and 'Ennui'), which set the assembly in roars of laughter, yet if these same lectures were delivered in Ireland the lecturers would be received with hisses, or at best in silence. We are proud of Lady Morgan and of Miss Edgeworth, as by their genius they have given a glory to our country; but as painters of

Irish character—the genuine Irishman as we have him at fair and wake, at court and camp—we consider them about as faithful to nature as the creator of *Captain Corrigan* and *Mrs. O'Dowd*. I did not, in writing of John Banim as I have written, detract in any way from the merit of my two countrywomen; I simply wrote of him as Irishmen think of him—as the first novelist who showed our people as they are, in joy and sorrow, in goodness and in evil, in the storm of passion and the sunshine of gladness. He could exhibit the passions of our people without making them monsters; he could describe their humour without making them farcical. In these particulars he exceeded Lady Morgan and Miss Edgeworth; and he exceeded them because he described a people amongst whom he was born and with whom he had lived, and every phase of whose minds he knew thoroughly and thoroughly. Yours, &c.,

"PATRICK JOHN MURRAY."

—In the above, Mr. Murray fences, rather than deals with fact. That Miss Edgeworth lived with the Irish and among them from her childhood, the Memoirs of her father remind us. Mr. Banim's biographer, too, cannot deny that he "ignored" Lady Morgan,—seeing that he never mentioned her, and spoke of the Authoress of 'Castle Rackrent' as the only Irish novelist.

The late Lord Strangford, whose death, aged forty, is among the losses of the week, was, like his more distinguished father, something of a man of letters, as well as a politician. Besides the prominent part which he took in founding and heading the party called "Young England," he did, what its members then imagined service to the cause of British manliness, by writing irregular and spirited ballads on chivalric historical subjects, and making other literary appearances, more picturesque than pithy, from which a success was expected, not precisely attained. His 'Historic Fancies' was a collection of miscellanies, to which the above character may also apply. Lord Strangford, too, contributed to the *Quarterly Review* a showy article or two on foreign politics and French memoirs,—but of late years had disappeared from the world of periodical and political literature.

Edinburgh has sustained another loss in her natural history circle by the death of Dr. Fleming, Professor of Natural History, in the Free Church College. He was originally educated for the ministry in the Kirk of Scotland, and officiated for many years as parish minister at Flisk, in Fifeshire. In 1822 he published his 'Philosophy of Zoology,' in which he advocated a dichotomous system of arranging animals. This work at once drew attention to the author, as possessing a large knowledge of the animal kingdom and philosophical views with regard to its arrangements. From this time his contributions to the science of natural history were very various and numerous. His earlier papers, most of them, appeared in the memoirs of the Wernerian Society of Edinburgh, and embrace several papers on the Mineralogy and Geology of the north of Scotland. In 1828 he published his 'History of British Animals, exhibiting their Descriptive Characters.' This was one of the first works in the English language which attempted to give a complete account of the animals of Great Britain. In 1837 he published a valuable work on Shell-fishes, entitled 'Molluscous Animals, including Shell-fish, containing an Exposition of their Structure, Systematical Arrangement, Physical Distribution, and Dietetical Uses, with a Reference to the Extinct Races.' This work had formed the article, 'Mollusca,' in the seventh edition of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. In 1834, Dr. Fleming was appointed Professor of Natural History in the University of Aberdeen. This position he vacated on the occasion of the rupture of the Scotch Church in 1843, having taken an active part on the side of the Free Church. Arrangements having been made in Edinburgh for the founding of a College with the Free Church, Dr. Fleming was appointed Professor of Natural Science in the new College. One of his latest publications was an Address delivered before the Natural History Section of the British Association held at Glasgow in 1855, on the occa-

sion of his taking the chair as President of that Section. It was entitled 'On the Different Branches of Natural History, the Chairs which have been instituted for their Illustration, and the Manner in which they should be subordinated.' Dr. Fleming died at an advanced age, and was buried on Tuesday last at the Dean Cemetery, Edinburgh, near to his young friend and enthusiastic admirer, the late Professor Edward Forbes, who had been buried on that day three years before him.

Here is another protest against the literary nuisance:—

"Aux Termes, près Paris.

"Will you allow me to state, through the columns of the *Athenæum*, that since the publication of my recent novels, 'Blythe Hall' and 'Quadroona,' in the —, I have not contributed one line to any periodical publication. The tales advertised with my name so extensively by the proprietors of a paper called the *Home Magazine*, are then, either not mine or unauthorized and piratical reprints. Yours, &c.,

"PERCY B. ST. JOHN."

A literary friend writes to us as follows:—"A few years ago, the late Mr. Crofton Croker showed me a MS., which was of more interest than he at that time imagined, although he introduced it to my notice by stating, as the fact undoubtedly was, that it was an original and unpublished play by Massinger. The particular title it bore is of no consequence; but the name of Philip Massinger was upon the cover, as Mr. C. Croker pointed out. He did not then know that the signature was the autograph of the dramatist, although the body of the performance was clearly the work of some scribe: it was corrected in various places by Massinger, and not only so; but, if my memory serves me, nearly all the stage directions had been inserted by the poet. I inquired from whence it came, my belief being (as it still is) that it was the copy of the play which had been sent to the Master of the Revels for approbation before performance. Mr. C. Croker informed me that it was one of the Conway Papers; and that it had been lent, or given, to him (I am not sure which) by the late Right Hon. J. W. Croker. I am anxious to know what has become of this MS.; because, when the drama was printed by one of the then existing literary Societies, the editor, I think, did not seem to be acquainted with the fact, that Massinger had himself contributed so much to show the authenticity of the piece. As a good deal has been lately said in the *Athenæum* regarding the Conway Papers, perhaps some of its Correspondents may be able to state whether this drama has been found among them, or whether it was sold with the books of the late Mr. Crofton Croker. He spoke to me of certain copies of verses, as he believed, in the handwriting of Ben Jonson, also among the Conway Papers; but these I never had an opportunity of seeing, and regarding them I shall likewise be glad to obtain any intelligence."

Goethe's 'Egmont,' as adapted by Schiller for the stage, has been published for the first time (sixty-one years after its completion), by Messrs. Cotta, of Stuttgart. This 'Bearbeitung' of one of Goethe's master-pieces, done at his desire, and to his greatest satisfaction, by his great friend and fellow bard, is a peculiarly interesting monument of the hand-in-hand aspirations of the two poets.

ADAM AND EVE.—DUBUFFE'S GREAT PICTURES, 'The Temptation' and 'The Fall,' are NOW ON VIEW at the French Gallery, 121, Pall Mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade.—Admission, 1s.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, NAPLES, POMPEII, and VESUVIUS, EVERY NIGHT (except Saturday) at 8, and Tuesday and Saturday Afternoons at 3.—Places can be secured, at the Box Office, Egyptian Hall, daily, between 11 and 4, without any extra charge.

LUCKNOW and DELHI—GREAT GLOBE, Leicester Square. DIORAMA of LUCKNOW and the SIEGE and the CITY of DELHI, its Streets, Palaces, and Fortifications, at 1s. and 7s. INDIA, a Diorama of the Cities of, with Views of Calcutta, Benares, Agra, and the Scenes of the Revolt, at 1s. noon; and 6 p.m. The RUSSIAN DIORAMA at 3 and 6 o'clock. Illustrative Lectures.—Admission to the whole Building, One Shilling.

THE SOMNAMBULE, ADOLPHE DIDIER, gives his MAGNETIC REANCES and CONSULTATIONS for Acute and Chronic Diseases, their Causes, and Remedies, and on all subjects of interest, EVERY DAY, from 1 till 4—19, Upper Albany Street, Regent's Park. Consultation by Letter.

PROFESSOR Street, St. Evening due to their Mo announce & Nature called 'T PENING—State, so performance was, commens may be obt Street.

GEOG

Murchison Haidings phical Soc stitute of Honorar W. Blak Lieut.-G Hon. C. Grant, K son, G. F. Liard Rev. A. the Hon W. H. S. Prof. Te states th progress topograp Elliott Korum, tance be would in measure the snow From V ceived t Mr. Fra to the penetratin's las 'Progre tion, un despatch Fort Pe expediti Fort W the west accompe servation Mr. Nic part.— Africa, Capt. B. 1856. T settled s the Imma pone his the mea had vis the 5th days, a more, w ing info tives. to the went in river to thirty-s and sev the lat himself further ward, a March contain tions, t Fuga, h been d penetr the inte Lake.

SOCI Earl St Mr. B



PROFESSOR WILJALBA FRIKELL, Willis's Rooms, King Street, St. James's, on MONDAY, November 30, and every evening during the week.—Professor Wiljalba Frikell, Physician to their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Russia, begs to announce that his new and original Entertainment of Physical and Natural Magic, performed without the aid of any apparatus, entitled 'TWO HOURS OF ILLUSIONS,' will take place EVERY EVENING. To commence at Eight, and terminate at 10 o'clock.—Stalls, 5s.; Unreserved Seats, 2s. 6d. The first Morning Performance will take place on SATURDAY MORNING, December 3, to commence at half-past 3, and terminate at 5 o'clock. Places may be obtained at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street.

## SCIENTIFIC

## SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—Nov. 23.—Sir Roderick I. Murchison, President, in the chair.—Prof. W. Haidinger, Kt., President of the Imperial Geographical Society, and Director of the Geological Institute of Vienna, and Gen. A. Della Marmora, as Honorary Members; and T. Baines, S. Beardmore, W. Blake, C. Brady, J. Brant, W. Camps, M.D., Lieut.-Gen. Cannon, Capt. R. Coote, R.N., the Hon. C. W. Fitzwilliam, M.P., Lieut.-Col. W. C. Grant, K. D. Hodgson, M.P., H. Holroyd, R. Jefferson, G. Kinkel, Ph.D., G. B. C. Leverson, Capt. F. Liardet, R.N., W. Loch, M. H. Marsh, M.P., Rev. A. P. Moor, M.A., Capt. J. Moore, R.N., the Hon. W. Napier, Capt. A. Phillimore, R.N., W. H. Sitwell, Capt. J. H. Speke, R. Tait, and Prof. Tennant, were elected Fellows. Col. Waugh states that the Kashmir and Tibet surveys are progressing favourably, and will make a beautiful topographical map. Messrs. Montgomerie and Elliott Brownlow have fixed two peaks in the Kara Korum, one of which is 27,928 feet high, its distance being 136 miles from the last stations. This would indicate the peak to be the third highest yet measured. The Kashmir series has twice crossed the snowy range with two stations each time on it. From West Australia an account had been received through Lieut. Du Cane, R.E., stating that Mr. Frank Gregory had, upon an exploring tour to the north, crossed the Murchison River, and penetrated upwards of 100 miles further than Austin's last discoveries. The papers read were:—'Progress of the British North American Expedition, under the command of Mr. J. Palliser.' The despatches are dated Fort Garry, July 16; and Fort Pembina, July 27, 1857, to which places the expedition had proceeded from Lake Superior, via Fort William. Mr. Palliser intended travelling to the westward as soon as possible. The papers were accompanied by valuable astronomical and other observations, and led to a warm discussion, in which Mr. Nicolay, Col. Lefroy, and Dr. Hodgkin took part.—Reports from the Expedition to Eastern Africa, under Capt. R. Burton and J. H. Speke. Capt. Burton arrived at Zanzibar on December 19, 1856. The season being dry, combined with the unsettled state of affairs, consequent upon the death of the Imam of Muscat, rendered it advisable to postpone his journey into the interior until June. In the mean time, accompanied by Captain Speke, he had visited the mainland. Leaving Zanzibar on the 5th of January, he reached Pemba in eight days, and crossed thence to Mombas in three more, where he remained twenty-one days, obtaining information from the missionaries and the natives. Thence he proceeded on a coasting voyage to the mouth of the Pangany river, whence he went inland on foot, but tracing the course of the river to Fuga, the capital of Mumbara, which is thirty-seven miles in a straight line from Pangany and seventy-four by the river; he then returned to the latter place, where both Captain Speke and himself were attacked by fever, which prevented a further examination of the mainland to the southward, and they returned to Zanzibar on the 6th of March. The field-book, besides a journal in detail, contains thermometrical and astronomical observations, together with the route from Pangany to Fuga, from which the map, accompanying it, has been drawn. Capt. Burton and Speke have since penetrated, at the head of an armed escort, into the interior from Bagamoyo, in search of the Great Lake.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Nov. 19.—The Earl Stanhope in the chair.—Exhibitions:—1. By Mr. Bateman: A drawing of a supposed terminal

stone found in Derbyshire.—2. By the Treasurer: Examples of mediæval seals.—3. By the Rev. T. H. Harford: Drawings of mural paintings in Old Croydon Church.—4. Photographs of Charters, by Mr. Cole.—The Secretary read a 'Report of his Researches in an Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Brighton, near Witney.'

STATISTICAL.—Nov. 17.—James Heywood, Esq., in the chair.—A Report was read by Mr. Samuel Brown, 'On the International Statistical Congress held, at Vienna, in September, 1857.' At this, the third of the International Statistical Congresses, the governments of Russia, Spain, and Turkey were for the first time officially represented. The Austrian Minister of Commerce, Ritter von Toggenburg, opened the Congress with a short but eloquent address, and Baron von Czoering, the head of the Statistical Department, presided at the general meetings, which were held daily in the Hall of the States-General. Dr. Farr and Mr. Fonblanque were deputed by the British Government; but the latter was prevented from attending by ill health. The Government of France deputed M. Legoyt; Belgium, M. Quételet, M. Henschling, and M. Viisschers; Sweden, Dr. Berg; Norway, Prof. Ascheberg; Netherlands, M. von Baumhauer; Denmark, M. David; Saxony, M. Engel; Turkey, Daoud Effendi. Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Tuscany, and other countries, also sent their respective official delegates. Some private scientific institutions devoted to the advancement of statistics were also represented; amongst them this Society, which was represented by the writer of the Report, Dr. Farr, and Mr. Nassau, sen. The total number of members was upwards of 400, a large proportion of whom were Austrian subjects. A very excellent programme, embodying the subjects intended to be debated, had been previously prepared, so that the time and attention of the members might not be wasted; and, with the various alterations suggested in the Sections, was finally carried. The titles of the different Sections, to which the respective parts of the programme were referred, will show the importance of the subjects considered. Section 1. Medical Statistics; Section 2. Criminal and Civil Justice; Section 3. Finance; Section 4. Trade; Section 5. Public Instruction; Section 6. Relation of Statistics with Natural Science. In this last Section a remarkable ethnographical chart was exhibited by Baron von Czoering, showing in colours the proportion of the numerous races inhabiting the Imperial dominions, and the localities respectively occupied by them. By this means the increase or diminution of certain races is made visible, which leads to reflections on the influence thus exerted on the cultivation of the soil, or the industry and commerce of the country. The Congress also came to resolutions which will serve for the basis of discussion at the next meeting (which is to be held in London in 1859, on the invitation of Her Majesty's Government), on the statistics of penal legislation, of industry and the classification of products, on the adoption of a uniform system of medical statistics, and on those relating to banks, institutions of credit, and Joint-Stock Companies. Perhaps in no country could this last question be discussed with so much advantage and propriety as in this, where the extent of commerce, and the habits of the people, have led to such an extraordinary development of these undertakings, and have made so well known both their benefits and their defects. Great Britain is, unfortunately, behind many smaller States in the collection and preparation of statistical documents, not so much from want of materials as from the want of some Government department to ensure their publication on a uniform plan, and in accordance with the improved methods which have so generally followed the discussions which took place at Brussels and Paris. The meeting of so many talented and practical men, many of them at the head of statistical departments of Foreign Governments, cannot but be beneficial; and will, it is hoped, lead to the Government of this country devising some plan by which all statistical documents, whether relating to population, commerce, legislation, or education, may be prepared and published under the authority of a special Board

or Government department. By this means a vast amount of labour will be saved, and the information will be conveyed in a more clear and practical manner.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 24.—J. Gould, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The chairman called the attention of the meeting to four new species of Rodents from Australia, which he described under the names of *Mus assimilis*, *M. nanus*, *M. sordidus*, and *M. manicatus*. To these interesting species of the mammals of that country, a fifth was contributed by Dr. Gray, from the collection made during the expedition under A. C. Gregory, Esq., which he has named *Hapalotis hemieucurus*.—The Chairman exhibited an unique Australian Bat (*Molossus Australis*) from the museum of the United Service Institution, to which it had been presented in 1832 by Major M'Arthur.—The Secretary read a paper, by Dr. Gray, 'On the genus *Furcella* of Oken.'—Mr. Slater read a paper On a Collection of Birds transmitted by Mr. H. W. Bates from the Upper Amazon.—Mr. F. Moore read a paper 'On the Asiatic Species of *Neptis* and *Athyma*,' in which he described eight new species of *Neptis* and eleven new species of *Athyma*.—The Secretary read a letter addressed to Mr. Gould from Mr. Cumberbatch, respecting the weight of the common Partridge, in those districts of the New Forest in which they appear to feed exclusively on bog plants, and have no access to corn land. Three of these birds weighed 13oz., 12½oz., and 11½oz., respectively.

CHEMICAL.—Nov. 19.—Dr. Lyon Playfair, C.B., President, in the chair.—R. Reynolds, Esq., was elected a Fellow.—Prof. Rogers (U.S.) communicated the 'Results of some Experiments on Atmospheric Ozone.' He showed that the discolouration of Schönbein's test-paper was not perceptibly due to the terbenzinate emanations from plants, or to the oxygen evolved from plants, or to the direct action of sunlight, or to the presence of nitric acid in the atmosphere; and recommended that ozone observations should be made by exposing a definite surface of paper to the action of a definite quantity of air, for a definite period of time, which should not exceed five or ten minutes.—Mr. J. Mercer read a paper 'On a New Calotype Process.' The sensitive agent employed was the per-oxalate of iron, and by the subsequent application of different re-agents, photographic pictures of the most varied and even brilliant colours were produced. The process was an ingenious application of the practice of calico-printing to the purposes of photography.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Nov. 24.—R. Stephenson, Esq., President, in the chair.—H. J. Martin, Esq., was elected a Member.—The following paper was read:—'On the Fall of Rain on October the 22nd, 1857,' by Mr. Glaisher. The author commenced by stating that the mean amount of rain collected at eight stations in London, on October the 22nd, was 2.7 inches, and it fell nearly as follows:—On October the 21st, about 9 P.M., a thin misty rain commenced, and by 10 A.M. on October the 22nd, rain to the depth of 0.5 inch was measured; it was at this time still falling steadily, and by 1 P.M. a second half-inch had fallen, and again by 4.30 P.M. a third half-inch was measured; it then fell less rapidly, and at 6 P.M. but 0.1 inch additional had fallen. During the next two hours, viz. from 6 to 8 P.M. very little rain fell, measuring 0.03 inch. After 8 P.M. it again began to descend heavily, and by 9.20 P.M. 0.3 inch was measured; between 9.20 and 10 P.M. the amount which fell was 0.02 inch only. Between 10 and 11.30 P.M. it fell steadily to the amount of 0.5 inch; then, for an interval of twenty minutes, there was no rain; and, finally, between 11.50 P.M. and 12.15 A.M., when the rain at length ceased, 0.3 inch fell—giving a total fall of no less than 2.75 inches within little more than twenty-four hours. The author observed, that heavy as the fall was, it was particularly remarkable in the month of October, and that he had no record of so large a fall on any day in that month, and so far as he could determine it was unprecedentedly large. The total fall per acre was 62,222 gallons, or 277½ tons; and taking the whole area

of London to be 78,000 acres, the total fall exceeded 4,853 millions of gallons, or 21½ millions of tons. Here the author produced a table, showing the falls of rain amounting to or exceeding 0·5 inch within twenty-four hours in the preceding twenty years. From this table it was found, that in twenty-one years there have been 188 instances of falls amounting to and exceeding 0·5 inch, and of these 157 were less than 1 inch; 27 less than 2 inches; and 4 only were equal to, or exceeded 2 inches. Further tables were then read, showing in what manner the 188 instances previously mentioned were distributed through the months of the year, with the average depth of fall in each month. From these it was shown that there were no instances of a fall exceeding 0·8 inch in the months of February, April and December, and that two falls in July, one in August, and one in October, were equal to, or exceeded 2 inches. From this it will be seen, that there have been but four instances in the last twenty-one years of rain to the amount of 2 inches falling in one day, viz. on August the 23rd, in the year 1843, when the amount was 2·2 inches; on July the 25th, in the year 1852, when it was 2·0 inches; in 1853, on July the 14th, amounting to 2·63 inches; and on October the 22nd of the present year, when the amount was 2·75 inches. The two last mentioned are very nearly of the same amount—that of 1853 began on July the 12th, at 10 P.M. and ceased on July the 13th, at 4·30 P.M. The average fall per hour, per acre, being 3,304 gallons, or 14·7 tons; but during a part of the time upwards of 9,000 gallons per acre fell in one hour. The author then proceeded to give the details of this and the other falls just alluded to, from which it appeared that, comparing the fall of rain on July the 12th, 1853 (which amounted to 2·63 inches, and occupied eighteen hours in falling), with the fall on October the 22nd of this present year, which occupied something more than twenty-four hours in falling, that the latter, though somewhat larger in amount, was less heavy in the proportion of 3 to 4. The fall on July the 25th, 1852, which amounted to 2 inches, and occupied in falling but nine hours, was stated by the author as being the heaviest fall he had known, one half-inch having fallen in ten minutes, and one inch in fifteen minutes, or at the rate of 4½ gallons per square yard, or 22,600 gallons, or in weight 101 tons per acre, which is equal to 8 millions of tons over the whole area of London. In the fall on August the 23rd, 1843, the whole amount of 2·27 inches fell in about nine hours, during which time there fell 10·6 gallons per square yard, or 51,360 gallons per acre, or in weight, 229 tons per acre. So that although the fall of rain in the present year was collectively larger than any other, yet the rain fell at the least rapid rate of any of the four cases. In each of these four instances, the wind changed suddenly, and this indicates that these great falls of rain have been all attributable to the meeting of two currents of widely different temperatures, and thus the great deposition. The author then proceeded to show, from a table of the falls of rain at the different stations throughout the country, that the rain began to fall over the south of England, extending to latitude 52° north, during the early part of the night of the 21st, but that the weather was fine generally at places north of 52° till the morning of the 22nd, and at these places the rain did not commence falling till 9 or 10 A.M. It ceased generally about midnight at places situated to the south, and somewhat later at places situated to the north of London. The rain fell heaviest in the counties of Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Surrey, Kent, and the southern part of Buckinghamshire, the mean amount in these districts was 2·69 inches, being of the same value as over London, and therefore the fall per acre was 62,222 gallons, or 288 tons nearly. The counties of Norfolk, Bedfordshire, the northern part of Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Dorsetshire, Sussex, and the Isle of Wight, are the next in order, the mean amount being 1·5 inch, or 33,939 gallons, or 157½ tons of water per acre fell over these districts. Next in order are the counties of Durham, Gloucestershire, Devonshire and Cornwall, the mean amount being over these counties 0·55 inch, or there fell 12,444 gallons, or in weight 56 tons

nearly per acre. The island of Lewis, and the counties of Aberdeenshire and Invernesshire, in Scotland, with those of Northumberland, the eastern part of Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Worcestershire, and the Isles of Man and Guernsey, come next, and in these districts the mean amount was 0·11 inch, being at the rate of 2,490 gallons, or 11 tons in weight per acre. The least quantity of rain fell in the county of Lancashire and the western portion of Yorkshire, the mean amount being 0·015 inch, or 339 gallons, or 1½ ton per acre. In the counties of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Wales generally, and Fifehire and Elgin, in Scotland, no rain whatever fell. A communication was then read from Dr. Moffatt, of Hawarden, stating that from experiments recently made, it appears that the products of combustion, either destroy ozone, or so completely modify its effects, that they become inoperative.

A communication was also read from Mr. Whitbread, stating that on Sunday, November 1, at 5·45 P.M., he saw at Brighton a very large meteor descend perpendicularly in the south-east quarter of the heavens. The reflection in the sea was so vivid that it appeared to make a splash in the water. In size it appeared five or six times the diameter of Jupiter.

**INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.**—Nov. 24.—R. Stephenson, Esq., M.P., President, in the chair.—The proceedings were commenced by the reading of an Appendix to Mr. G. L. Moleworth's paper 'On the Conversion of Wood by Machinery.'—After the meeting a model was exhibited of Gibson's 'Self-acting Signal and Telegraph for Railways.' This apparatus was described as being intended to supply the want of a system of railway signalling, which should be efficient, and whilst answering every purpose for which railway signals could be required, should be simple in construction, and not liable to be misunderstood, or to get out of repair; being, at the same time, independent of the attention or the neglect of servants.

**SOCIETY OF ARTS.**—Nov. 25.—The paper read was, 'On the Composition and Relative Value of the Food Grains of India,' by Dr. Forbes Watson.

#### MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Royal Academy, 8.—'Anatomy,' by Prof. Partridge.  
— British Architects, 8.  
— Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'On a New Formula for the Expectation of Life,' and 'On the Value of Life Annuities yielding a given Rate of Interest, the Capital to reproduce the Purchase-Money being invested at another Rate,' by Mr. Willich.  
**Tues.** Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on Mr. Moleworth's paper, 'On the Conversion of Wood by Machinery.'—'On Self-acting Tools for the Manufacture of Engines and Boilers,' by Mr. Sawyer.  
— Society of Arts.—Special General Meeting.  
**Wed.** Society of Arts, 8.—'On the Comparative Heating Properties of Coal and Coke, in regard to Economy and the Smoke Nuisance,' by Mr. Pellatt.  
— Geological, 8.—'Special General Meeting.'—'On the Microscopical Structure of Crystals, as applicable to the determination of the Aqueous or Igneous Origin of Minerals and Rocks,' by Mr. Sorby.  
**Thurs.** Zoological, 8.—General.  
— Photographic, 8.  
— Philosophical, 8.  
— Linnean, 8.—'On the Shell-bearing Molluscan Animals, particularly with regard to Structure and Form,' by Mr. Garner.—'General Observations on Entozoa, with Notices of several new Species, including an account of *Tania serrata* and *T. concolor*,' by Mr. Cobbold.—'On the Fauna of New Guinea,' by Mr. Sclater.  
— Society of Antiquaries, 8.  
— Chemical, 8.—'On Roache Acid,' by Dr. Müller.—'On the Arsenates of the Earth,' by Mr. F. Field.  
**Fri.** Archaeological Institute, 4.  
**Sat.** Asiatic, 2.

#### FINE ARTS

##### FRESCOS IN THE NEW PALACE.

The two new frescoes, the work of Messrs. Ward and Cope, have just been morticed into their abiding places, in the corridors of the new Houses of Parliament, and are now thrown open to that cold draught of criticism that seldom reaches with its healthy influence far into the atmosphere of a successful artist's studio. One picture by Mr. Cope, 'The Departure of the Pilgrim Fathers,' and two by Mr. Ward, 'Alice Lisle sheltering the Fugitives after Sedgemoor,' and 'The Executioner fastening Wishart's book round the neck of Montrose,' are now exposed to the sneer of envy and the chuckle of kindly approval. We will not draw any invidious comparison between the works of two artists so well known and so deservedly popular, but

only remark that while Mr. Ward has dashed his colours on with a manly and almost careless vigour, Mr. Cope has been smooth, highly finished, and perhaps a little too chummy, in his mode of execution. Mr. Ward has much more in his early painting in the 'Montrose' picture for the purposes of fresco; he indulges necessarily in the whites, because they are fitting in fresco, and he modifies historical truths, and turns the brave scarlet of his hero's dying suit into a pearl colour, which is more suitable to his material. Yet we cannot allow that the picture loses anything in force by this change, though the tints are less masculine, and the tones more subdued. There is still the lion-necked Highlander, with the bull's chest and the blacksmith's arms, tying with cruel coolness the brave man's book to the martyr's neck, knitting the cord with such cold and ferocious care, while the chivalrous Cavalier stands as calm and indifferent as if he were awaiting in some feudal hall the vassals crowding with their rents. Thus he stands before the heaving mob, thirsting for blood, the partial sunshine lighting the fair feather, the white looped satin of his doublet, and his rose, with the gold fringes, while the light from the blue sky to the left breaks on the red-tiled gables, alive with expectant eyes, and the quaint arched steeple of St. Giles. We read again, with all the pleasant recognition of a second edition, the bluff Puritan governor, with the hearty face, the blue feather, the stiff buff suit, and the crimson buckled sash; the sour, lemon-squeezing visage of the Nonconformist preacher, with his Bible turned down for reference—a little caricatured—but let that pass. Nor do we less delight to see again the brave old Highland shepherd who will wave his bonnet and shout for the Grème, in spite of his frightened daughter, huddling in her plaid, and in spite of the physician's brutal thrust at his uplifted arms. Fine too indelibly in fresco is the mayor, with his rermind gown and his cringing face; and there too, is that terrible black box, lying ready for the still living man, with its miserable pomp of gilt nails and black serge; and above it, up the massive staircase leading from time to eternity, is the hangman, dark against the sky, with the rope twisted ready round his hand. Nor should we forget the burgher with the thick skull-cap and the scarlet beard, who is bending down to show the proclamation to the Highlander, slow of belief, and ready for the hot blow. Here is a brave man perhaps mistaken—but that is all one—frankly throwing down his life as the last stake at the dangerous game of politics, without regret, with a sigh, unmoved as any martyr at taunts, at sneers, or any wrongs, though they reach to rope and felon's death. He dies, does this Montrose bravely, in the sight of all, smiling at the sea of heads, glad once more to see the blue sky and the tower that reaches up into it, forgetting in his high ecstasy of heroic yellow faces and black looks, believing that he is dying for a good cause, and shedding blood which will water a noble tree yet to be brought down. A mistaken man he may be, but a brave knight he is without dispute.—'Alice Lisle sheltering the Fugitives after Sedgemoor' is, like all Mr. Ward's subjects, a noble, dramatic one, with an underlying, deep, sincere feeling, that redeems it from the class of mere costume scenes, however powerful. It may not be quite equal to the sketch, which had a peculiar grace and nobleness; but then sketches are like first thoughts, and are not always to be carried out. The chief fault of the picture is a little staginess and fuss; but the great principle of the picture is nobly carried out. The old lady, who leans on her crooked staff, with a tranquil, patient courage in her eyes, and listens to the violent inquiries of the fugitives, is pre-eminently a lady, with her unruffled features and her look of smiling foresight of the evils that must come, as one ruffianly gentleman points, with threatening sword, at the kneeling servants, who pray for mercy,—as another, in blue and red, presents a pistol at his companion. The kindly, brave, hospitable, old lady foresees the stake, and voluntarily embraces it, while her granddaughter and some brown and red cheeked, buxom damsel

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of the house fall on their knees and cling to the rude swordsman's arm. For Mr. Ward, who abounds in invention, the story is simply told. There are merely the two attendants watchfully bringing refreshments, the thoughtful old lady, the frightened servant, the clamorous fugitive, and the enraged comrade, who is threatening, with loaded pistol, the two kneeling, out-door servants. The colours are simple. The kneeling woman recedes in pale purple and yellow; Alice Lisle in plain and lady-like black, in a pale white veil and bows over her forehead. The fugitive is in scarlet, stiff, skirted coat, and scarf, and mudded jack-boots. We see the long clayey lanes through which these sullen, cowed men, bleeding and afraid, spurring in hot haste,—startled at every trumpet sound, and maddened in the dull echo of every hoof. Then came the sight of the friendly roof, the towering chimneys, the open door. They spurred and raced, flung themselves off, screamed for aid and help to the old lady, with the Cavalier's portrait for a brooch, clapped a pistol to the yelling herdsman's head, and were safe.—Mr. Cope's picture of 'The Pilgrim Fathers' is in some points an improvement from his Academic design. The painting, though rather harder and more detached, is firmer, maturer, and surer, and the little boat of the Mayflower now starts from the Dutch coast under happier auspices, and with a more certain meed of success. If the faces are too smooth, and pretty, and tending to the weak, we forgive it for the kindly spirit and good religious intention manifest in the painter. If the thing were a little warmer, and more sinful, it might be more like life. What do we see, then, if we look through Mr. Cope's telescope at that quiet, cloudless morning on the Dutch coast? We see a sloping, sandy shore, crowned by some fantastic houses, and a dull-looking windmill,—a boat full of emigrants is putting off, and a crowd of well-wishers and relations are kneeling on the shore, praying God's blessing on their happy voyage. The groups are quaint enough, but true. There is the grave couple,—the good man with his enormous clasped crimson Bible; and the good wife with her wheel ruff and sober, kindly face, so truthful and so relying. Behind is the enthusiastic man who is going to cheer, and the gentleman and brave son. There are all degrees of sympathy,—from the mere Dutch country girl who is looking on with interest, to the enthusiastic preacher who, with upturned eyes and outstretched arms, sees the spirit of God descending on the departing. Nor is the boat's crew less deserving of interest. There is the young couple in the pride of life, with a long future of Indian attacks and witch trials and all before them. The man's handsome face, brown, and shaded by his overlapping hat, seems full of manly endurance and determination. The sinewy boatmen push at the boat, ankle deep in the water, while the children look with a surprise more of amusement than fear. The maiden turns her head on her hands, agonized with grief; while the boy, full of all the expectancy of life, handles his father's gun and tries the lock with a hopeful look that cheers the timorous and the fearful. There is something epic in this scene, painting as it does the establishment of a great colony, founded in sorrow and fear by fugitives from happy homes, driven to the desert to herd with wild beasts and Indians. The regrets and dismay at the doubtful future interest us who know the glories which opened to their descendants' eyes.

**FINE-ART GOSSIP.**—Mr. MacDowell's statue of Pitt, the ugliest of great men, is now placed upon its pedestal, guarding, with Tory vigilance and the smuggest of noses, the right-hand side of the porch of St. Stephen. One pedestal more is to be filled, and the twelve political apostles are then complete. It is a difficult thing to make a hero of a lean, scarecrow of a man, with a dry, knotty forehead, and a woodcock nose,—but Mr. MacDowell has, at least, made him dignified and manly, though perhaps all the time he was at work longing to get back to his nymphs and Iphigenias, with the old Greek dreamy beauty wrapping them like a sail.

One of those singular, exceptional, and episodic pictures with which great painters sometimes startle

the world is now on view at Messrs. Jennings's, Cheapside. We allude to Sir E. Landseer's 'Titania and the Fairies,' a scene from the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' which, shown for a moment, has for a long time been a lost thing to the general public. Every artist of even five years' standing must remember the studio traditions about this fantasia, with its flowers and elves, and its inimitable white rabbit, with its spectral eyes, will-o'-the-wisp lighted, which quite eclipses Titania,—for the picture is a fairy animal picture, not a fairy picture.

The lovers of the cold, academic, Scriptural, romantic style should go and see M. Dubufe's 'Adam and Eve,' 'The Temptation,' and 'The Fall.' Those who do not like "great works" should stop away from the French Gallery. Our special temptation was to fall foul of the pictures, —to pity, not Adam's fall, but M. Dubufe's. As far as careful, dull, incurably average painting goes, here it is.

The case of the Linnell forgery is to be decided to-day (Saturday). Mr. Closs's counsel contended, on Monday, that the mere writing of a man's name was not a forgery:—"There was no case which went the length of saying that the writing of another man's name was a forgery at common law. The prisoner was not charged with uttering the name, but with uttering the picture." The opposition rebutted, that the jury had found that the name was forged, and that the prisoner, knowing it, had uttered the picture. What difference, if a man utters a known bad shilling, whether he made it with his own hands or not?

The Science and Art Department, from its quiet rural home in South Kensington, issues a tempting syllabus of winter lectures. Dr. Playfair holds forth 'On Science Institutions,'—Mr. Burchett 'On the Central Training-Schools and its Methods,'—Mr. Robinson 'On Decorative Art,'—and Mr. Fergusson 'On Architecture.' If clever men cannot speak well about their life-long pursuits, who can?

Mr. H. Otley is delivering his useful Art-lectures at the Marylebone Institution. He begins at the beginning, which is more than every one does,—reviews Art-history, from the days of the hooded Cimabue and Dante's Giotto down to the splendid climax of Raphael's and Titian's sea sunset of colour. He then passes on to the vicious eclecticism of the mannerists, and their struggle with the naturalists. From this, by easy stages, he moves on to the Dutch school, which he has a kind, apologetic word for, and so to the end, with some remarks on the Pre-Raphaelites.

The French papers publish, in ridiculous good faith, a cock-and-bull story about the discovery of a batch of Titians by M. About, a writer on Art, who ought really at his age to know better than to suppose that diamonds are picked up in every dust-heap. We thought that by this time amateurs had learnt that Wardour Street concealed no treasures. Let M. About try to sell his Titian's 'History of Joseph,' and he will soon learn the true value of his purchase.

The inner court of the Schloss, at Stuttgart, is to be adorned by a colossal equestrian statue, in bronze, of Count Eberhard im Bart, the renowned ancestor of the present royal family of Württemberg, whom Uhland has celebrated in so many of his beautiful ballads. Herr Höfer, the sculptor, is engaged on the model of the monument.

The statues which are to adorn the "Kaiserhalle" at Speyer have been commenced in the studio of Prof. Fernkorn at Vienna. Those of Henry the Fourth, Adolf von Nassau, and Albrecht the Second, are already far advanced. In the fore-court of the studio the colossal lion may be seen, which is soon to find its place over the ashes of the slain on the battle-field of Aspern.

#### MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

**SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY,** Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA. FRIDAY, December 11. Handel's MESSIAH. Vocalists: Madame Rüdersdorf, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Weiss, with Orchestra of 700 Performers.—Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 10s. 6d.—6, Exeter Hall.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

##### PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

*The Classical Pianist, used at the Royal Academy of Music: a Selection of Movements from the Works of the Great Masters.* Edited by Brinley Richards. 2 vols. (Cocks & Co.)—There is a misnomer in this title,—since the books before us do not contain fragments, but entire works. We accept them, further, as an introduction to the elaborate compositions of the classical writers, provided "introduction" mean not preparation, but presentation; since the series of twenty-four works here collected includes many of the highest and most difficult masterpieces for the piano. Though the deciding motive as regards some of the items is not clear, the amount of variety is considerable, and the work contains some noticeable features. Though many specimens by Beethoven are given, we do not comprehend the preference of his *Sonata* in F sharp major to a dozen others, which could be named. A happier choice, again, might have been made than two of the works by Mozart,—those in F and in D. The German National Air, No. 14, by Chopin, is not "classical." On the other hand, we cordially accept the reproduction entire of Clementi's Opera 50; otherwise the three superb *Sonatas*, the third of which, 'Didone Abbandonata,' is one of the most impassioned things existing in music. So, too, the selection of Weber's *Sonata* in C (Op. 24), and of Hummel's in D (Op. 106), is excellent; but why, we must ask, if these composers figure in such a book, could not room be found for some specimen by Prof. Moscheles, than whom no one has written with greater individuality or finer intelligence for the pianoforte? The 'Grand Pastorale,' by Field, is weak and straggling, however elegant. His strength did not lie in grandeur,—not in heroic statuary, but in cameo cutting. We dwell on the *Sonata* by Chopin, his Opus 4, because it is a novelty to us, and one which, though crude (thus hardly "classical") is most interesting to examine,—pregnant with real, definite, musical ideas, indicating the struggles of one who had a style of his own. The phrase of four quavers in the second bar of the *allegro*, is "worked to death," and yet (explain this who can) the iteration does not sicken the ear as some of Dr. Spohr's similar workings do. Yet there is small relief in the first movement. The *Menuetto* is strange and fresh, a little grand, too,—but freaked by many a crudity. The *Larghetto*, in 5/4, is one of those experiments to get a rhythm out of the indivisible figures of the multiplication-table,—which as yet have yielded no result. The attempt to systematize eccentric incompleteness is as old as music; but rhythmical produce from a 5, 7, 11, or 13-bar phrase must always be lame. The *Presto finale* is volcanic in its fire, lurid and confused, and however bright, not (to change the figure), like *Mistress Gilpin's* wine, both bright and clear.

Yet let any one, disposed to question Chopin's grandeur and power among grand and powerful composers, look at the phrase marked "appassionamento," commencing at the fifth stave of p. 245, with its continuation up to the climax opening p. 247, and he might have fancied this the conception of a Titan in power of hand, and not of a fragile creature, whose speciality as an executant was charming delicacy and wayward refinement. There are all manner of disproportions in this *Presto*, hence it is not "classical." Its difficulty, moreover, is frightful; but, taken in any other light than as forming part of a professional course, it is worth minute examination.—To conclude, from the obvious differences in type, we are led to fancy that this collection may be merely a mass of solid ware belonging to one publisher,—sent out with "a cocked hat and a walking-cane," but not arranged for certain uses, from a beginning,—by a middle,—to an end.

Let any one desiring to measure the step from the sublime to the ridiculous, turn from Clementi and Chopin, as above set forth, to some of the curious things which will greet them in Parts VI. VII. & VIII. of *The Pianoforte*—[*Das Pianoforte*, &c.] (Ewer & Co.). Two of the items they contain—a *Bolero* and a *Waltz*, called



Dance Caprices, by Herr Raff—are examples of the thing substituted for music now-a-days worth pointing out to those who may be disposed to try everything that declares itself new and deep. The waltz is, indeed, a curiosity. *A prelude* by Herr Willmers, satirically entitled '*Rococo*,' in Part VIII., is as good as the above-mentioned pair of Caprices are trashy and chaotic. In Part VII. too, there is a *Scherzo* by Herr Löschor, made so "orderly and well," if not

According to the fashion of the time, that we shall look out with interest for other music signed by the same name.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—'Il Bittai di Preston,' Signor Ricci's setting of 'Le Brasseur de Preston,' already done into French music by M. Adam, was produced on Tuesday, with some singers who had not till then appeared. The performance gave us no cause to reverse the judgment already expressed of this undertaking. Signor Ricci's opera might be pretty in certain passages, though it is scored more grossly than almost any Italian music we know, were it creditably performed; but such epithet can be only given to Signor Georgetti among the *dramatis persone*. Though an apology was made for him, he was the only one of the company who sang agreeably. If any report is to be given of an entertainment making high profession, and at high prices,—that report must be a black mark. No ultimate good is done to the luckless and mediocre folk who have come hither with notions of conquering Britain,—less good still to our own singers, who get no opportunity of conquering even their own country,—by disguise of the truth.—The affair, in brief, has been bad, from first to last,—but the bills announce "success."

HAYMARKET.—The skill of the practised dramatist in making trifles appear important has often, been exhibited by Mr. M. Morton in his farces; and without story or incident, situations have been contrived that have provoked unreflecting laughter. These follow in such rapid succession as to preclude thought. Even such a farce is the new production placed on these boards on Monday, for the purpose of following Mr. Tom Taylor's new play of 'The Unequal Match'; and that served well enough the purpose of unbending the mind that has been exercised in attention to an intellectual drama, chiefly depending on dialogue, and is now ready for some merely sensational excitement. 'Take care of Dowb—,' is the mysterious title of the little amusing piece in question. It concerns the fortunes of a certain pedagogue, Mr. James Wallop by name, who is interested in the matrimonial happiness of a quondam pupil, Mr. Christopher Dowbiggin (Mr. W. Farren). He suspects that the lover of Mrs. Dowbiggin's sister Fanny, is her own, and accordingly chases Mr. Charles Ramsay (Mr. E. Villiers) through all his doubles, and suffers much personal damage in consequence. Mr. Buckstone personates the unfortunate schoolmaster, and falls through glass hot-houses, rides unruly horses, and shoots scarecrows, (thinking that he has committed murder,) with the most absurd industry, in order that his old and favourite scholar may be properly taken care of, now that his domestic peace is threatened. Having been sufficiently laughed at, poor Wallop is convinced of his mistake, and delivered into the care of his wife, who has, in a fit of jealousy, followed him to Dowbiggin's country villa. Mr. Buckstone most sedulously improves these well-nigh worn-out stage positions, and carries the main action triumphantly through, touching the different points with his own originality, and thus giving the gloss of novelty to the old and even obsolete. The trifle will doubtless answer its temporary purpose.

OLYMPIC.—'What will they say at Brompton?' is the title of a new farce, by Mr. Stirling Coyne, produced at this theatre on Monday. Mr. Robson, who has been absent for a few weeks, re-appeared on the occasion, and supported the part of Mr. Todd, the hero of the piece, which in itself is but the framework of a romantic dream. We learn from the introduction that Mr. Todd and his wife

(Miss Wyndham) propose a tour to Italy, when Mr. Croker (Mr. G. Cooke), a melancholy old uncle, enters and dissuades them from the journey, telling them frightful stories of troubles and perils, of brigands and condottieri. Todd laughs at these bugbears, but is not the less influenced; and having smoked an opiate cigar, falls asleep. The apartment is at once converted into an Italian mansion, in which Mr. Todd, who is fond of the concertina, is seen wooing the niece of a bandit by means of that instrument. With the ruffianly uncle himself he has already had a dangerous skirmish; and, though naturally a timid man, has shown such coolness in the hour of danger, planting with the utmost precision a bullet in the shoulder of the robber, and escaping from his clutches in the strangest manner, that the bluff brigand (Mr. Addison), on again making his acquaintance, is desirous of adding him to his band, and moreover, insists on his marrying his aforesaid niece. Todd has already dreamed that his wife was drowned off Genoa, and agrees to the arrangement; but finds he has a rival, in another member of the band, who menaces him with assassination in case the marriage takes place. Of course, the undowned Mrs. Todd comes also on the scene, and is taken care of by the brigand in his own peculiar way. Her presence perplexes in no small degree the proposed arrangements. But all is put an end to by the reported arrival of the military, and the consequent determination of the bandits to set fire to the dwelling. The conflagration commences, much to Todd's terror, who wakes at the height of the emotion. The part is well suited to Mr. Robson, whose personal vanity, affected bravery, regard for the world's opinion, and comic fear, are successively realized, with that attention to minute detail which only this actor can so fully master. Small as the part is, the points of study are innumerable. The piece, too, looks well from the front. The scenery and costumes are picturesque accompaniments that lend to the humorous situations a romantic background pleasing in itself. The production was successful.

STRAND.—This little theatre deals in occasional themes, and this week has taken advantage of the newspaper disputes concerning the new-made word 'Telegram,' to produce a piece under that title. It is written by Mr. John V. Bridgman. The action is conducted by a Mr. Maximilian Rodgers (Mr. Emery), and a Mr. Wrangles (Mr. O. Summers), who meet at a telegraph office; and then, over a glass of brandy-and-water, quarrel as to the respective proprieties of 'telegram,' 'telepheme,' and 'telepomp,' until from words they come to blows. A complexity of plot, in which the ladies are concerned, interferes with this conflict, and brings the piece to an ordinary conclusion.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—In continuation of our remarks on the musical doings and discrepancies of London during this early winter season, we may glance at the performances which have taken place since we wrote last on the subject.—The first of these was the first *Choral Rehearsal* at Exeter Hall, held yesterday week. This, however interesting and calculated to be of use, as most pleasurable and serviceable training, hardly comes yet into the category of representations to be reported on. But, let us ask, in what capital, save ours, could more than a thousand chorists so competent, most, if not all, of them, unprofessional, be summoned together at so short a notice! The power as readers at sight, which we English possess in so remarkable a degree, now runs a fair chance of being reinforced by those qualities of complete expression, simultaneous precision and sympathy, which foreign amateurs, having more time at command, and less desirous of running through the world's variety of music, acquire by close and perpetual practice. When to our promptitude we have added more finish and sensibility, we English may claim "the crown of the causeway" (as the old northern phrase of precedence had it) among the choral people of Europe. This day week the *Crystal Palace* goes had given to them to enjoy good orchestral music—Herr Pauer playing Weber's "Concert Stück"—and

singing by Miss Ransford and Mr. Santley; who, contemporaries state, followed up the favourable impression created by him at *St. Martin's Hall*, by exhibiting different music to a different public. There is the stuff in this young singer, we fancy, out of which a great career may come. A tenor of equally good quality, to divide occupation with Mr. Sims Reeves, would now be a boon;—Mr. Swift, having disappeared from England, at the moment when he was most wanted, and other gentlemen of promise, being so exclusively devoted to travelling opera, that first-class concert and oratorio singing is hardly to be expected from them, since there can be small time to polish or power to improve under the best conditions of vagabondism.—The anniversary of Mozart's death falls this day week, on which occasion a concert, exclusively of the master's works, is to be given at the *Crystal Palace*.

We learn that Miss Dolby is about to pass December and January in Germany. This is bad news for our Christmas oratorios.—On the other hand, we understand that Miss Gertrude Kemble will probably appear in 'The Messiah' at *St. Martin's Hall* next month.—Madame Lemmens-Sherrington is expected to arrive in England almost immediately.

On Monday an original sort of concert was given on one of Messrs. Bishop's new organs, by Mr. Hallett Shepherd, in conjunction with Herr Deichmann, the violinist.—The *People's Concerts* at *St. Martin's Hall* (it is instructive to observe, with reference to last week's remarks) have come to a stop already.—The *Amateur Society* held its first meeting on Monday evening. Here, again, we reach the bright side of London music, in the keeping together of a body of accomplished persons, some of whom, besides playing, can provide compositions meriting performance. What is more, though it would be Utopian to expect any great advance in technical completeness from the separate wind or stringed instruments composing the orchestra, their collective handling of the music which they attempt improves from year to year. We have heard Beethoven's First Symphony worse rendered, and infinitely worse read, by professional orchestras of pretension within the last ten years in England. With the clever 'Templar' overture of Mr. H. Leslie, their conductor, the orchestra naturally took its utmost pains. Improvement in accompaniment, too, was shown in its support of Mr. S. W. Wale's Pianoforte *Concerto*, to the merits of which (and they are not few) thorough justice was done by Madame Roche. This lady, besides being finished as a player, combines a certain steadiness with *finesse* amounting almost to originality of style. The last is rare among lady pianists; to whom, for the most part, without any misogyny, the line—

Most women have no character at all, might be applied. One has overdone the dashes of the other sex—another caricatured the classicism or carelessness of the Composer—a third carried dreaminess to an extreme which can only be devised by a waking spirit of exaggeration—a fourth, —but we are running into the veriest gossip, and must stop.

To return to more immediate matters, let it be noted (again in reference to what was said last week) that M. Jullien's "month is up" this year without its having included a Mendelssohn night, or a Beethoven night, or a Mozart night.

Among other aids and helps to public knowledge of Handel in this Handel time, we may call attention to the coming performance of his noble 'Funeral Anthem,' by Mr. Henry Leslie's choir.—The Bach Society, we observe, has resumed its meetings for practice. After all, how little is the way which has been made for Bach, with all his intellectual musical science and invention, as a vocal writer, since his disinterment in this character (for such it was), some quarter of a century since!—The greatest intelligences in Europe have studied him,—the most potential advocates have preached him; but he remains, at the evening as at the morning (like the gipsies wondered at by Wordsworth) in the same place, so far as the public for vocal and choral music is concerned. It does not appear

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that even in Germany, where the fashion has been to give Bach a place of supremacy, the splendid publication of his MS. works by the Bach Society has been attended by any increased trial of them before the public. As they have been taught to vaunt him as "first of the first," surely the presentation of these things might have been expected,—were the enthusiasm sincere and (which is a matter almost as important) the works presentable.

A Correspondent asks, "Can any one tell who arranged the words of the ballad,—

When forced from dear Hebe to go,—

from Shenstone's 'Pastorals,' and added sundry verses,—in particular that last one,

I sing in a rustical way,

A shepherd and one of the throng,

But Hebe approves of my lay,

Go, poets, and envy my song,

which I have heard sung, but cannot find, for the moment, any printed copy of the words to the music? The thing is a *pasticcio*, and not, as such, worth much trouble,—but some of your readers, or possessors of old English music-books, may be able at once to oblige me with a note in answer to my query.

The Manchester papers, some weeks ago, were explicit in their disappointment regarding Mlle. Piccolomini and her playfellows there, who met with scanty success in the cotton capital. That the same fate (a repetition of the Paris verdict) has since attended the lady in Holland, we learn from the foreign papers. Let us offer these notices by way of answer to correspondents, who, maintaining the young lady to be a calumniated Perfection, have assumed individual caprice to be our reason for stating that "a bird who cannot sing, cannot sing."

The Italian Opera at Paris appears to be going on strangely. Signor Viani, a new tenor, has been tried, and found fairly good, but not quite good enough.—Signor Saccamano, a *tenore di forza*, who was about to appear, is said to have thrown up his engagement.—M. Chapuis, a third tenor, from whom much was expected at the *Grand Opéra* a few years ago, having since Italianized himself, is about to have a trial.—The papers announce, too, the return of Madame Cambardi, who has already tired of the *Théâtre Lyrique*, and who began at the Italian theatre as *seconda donna*.—Then, the *Morning Post* states that Madame Viardot has been engaged for a series of representations, of which Signor Rossini's *Desdemona* is to be one, at the master's own request.—Yet it is only a day or two since that we were reading of the brilliant successes of Madame Albani and Madame Nantier-Didice—both ladies aspiring to Madame Viardot's repertory.—This is incoherent work, to make the best of it, no measure save the last being likely to restore the imperilled fortunes of the theatre. It illustrates, however, from another quarter the decadence of the art of singing in Italy. But example on example pours in to prove this.—The Italian papers trumpet the triumph at Milan, in Signor Ricci's 'Domino Nero,' of Mlle. Gordosa, a young London lady, and one of the two whose performance in 'Gli Ultimi Giorni di Suli,' six weeks ago, was found so very bad by our Correspondent, that he forbore to name her. Now that the echoes of triumphs afar have broken out, we must cry either "Poor Milan!" or else "Not true!"—The state of the foreign press on these subjects—so calculated to mislead all those who cannot hear, or who dare not judge for themselves,—throws increasing difficulties in the way of art, and hastens a decay which, for a thousand reasons, is to be regretted.

The management of the *Opéra Comique* of Paris is about to pass from the hands of M. Perrin into those of M. Nestor Roqueplan. An error was made in announcing M. Dumestre, the new singer at the *Grand Opéra*, as tenor, since he is a *basso*.

#### MISCELLANEA

*Natural Mysteries*.—Your Correspondent "E. G. R." furnishes you with an instance bordering on the marvel quoted by you from Dr. Livingstone. I will relate to you what came under

my own notice. Some years since, a terrier bitch, formerly the property of the late Lord Darnley, came into my father's possession,—she had three puppies, and one of these (a bitch) I gave to the late Adam Park, then surgeon in Gravesend, and brother to Mungo, of African celebrity. The puppy was sent to his stable, and in this place was a bitch with young ones,—the mother died, and the young ones as it were adopted the newly imported mother, and sucked at her dugs. The result was a good supply of milk, and they continued to draw sustenance from her as from their natural mother.

Y. Z.

*Gray's 'Elegy.'*—Respecting Gray's 'Elegy,' your Correspondent "Cantuariensis" inquires, "Is there any ivy-mantled tower in its (i.e. Stoke Pogis) neighbourhood?" I answer, there is one, the tower of Upton Old Church, about two miles from Windsor. In consequence of some repairs that were executed some years since, the ivy that once completely covered the tower has been partly destroyed, but there is still sufficient remaining to show what it has been. Moreover, any one who knew the place ten or fifteen years ago would bear testimony as to the applicability of terming it a "neglected spot." The tower also was, and perhaps still is, the abode of owls, and there is a fine old yew in the churchyard. Your Correspondent says that no ivy exists on Thanington Church tower, and he adds "nor, indeed, is that necessary for the vindication of the claim now in question, since the epithet 'yonder' would seem to apply rather to a tower at some little distance off," &c. But if the 'Elegy' were written in a churchyard would not the epithet "yonder" point to the church tower?—and if a church could be found in the neighbourhood of Windsor agreeing in every respect, and which this church certainly does, to the description in the 'Elegy,' ought not that church to have the preference to any other?

R. B. W.

*French Theatrical Properties*.—As often as 'Les Noces de Figaro' is performed at the *Théâtre Français* the public notices, in the third act, the beautiful easy-chair on which Count Almaviva pronounces his judgment. This chair, which shows marks of the luxurious taste of the time of Louis XIV., together with the stiffer forms of that of Louis XVI., is, with its sculptures, gildings, velvet fringes, golden tassels, and acorns, an historical piece of furniture. It was the *fauteuil de trône* which adorned, in the Palais Royal, the *salon* of Philippe Egalité, in his quality of prince of the royal blood. Traces of the crown and the arms of the house of Orleans are still visible on it. It was given to the theatre by Charles the Tenth. Another chair, less brilliant, but even more renowned, is that of the 'Malade Imaginaire.' According to tradition, it is the same easy-chair in which Molière first performed the part of Argan. When, at the end of the last century, the *Théâtre Français* was at the *Odéon*, it was visited by a terrible fire. The principal fear of the actors was, that the precious chair might be lost. However, a certain M. Pontus, who was employed at the theatre, saved it at the risk of his life, hurling it out of the window, where it escaped miraculously from being broken into pieces. Only with the assistance of an opera-glass the antiquarians of the pit can perceive at present that one of the legs of Molière's old easy-chair has been injured by fire. Another interesting item in the inventory of the *Théâtre Français* is the bell which is heard in the first act of 'Don Juan d'Auriche.' It is nothing less than one of the bells which, on the 24th of August, 1572, gave the signal for the massacre of St. Bartholomew. There were three of these bells, of different sizes, in the Church of St. Germain l'Auxerrois, and it was they which made answer to the first tones of the neighbouring Louvre. During the Revolution these bells were sold; a bell-founder of the name of Flaubon bought them, re-selling the smallest of the lot to the *Théâtre Français*, for the first representation of 'Édouard en Écosse,' by Alexander Duval, in 1801.—*Paris Journal*.

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